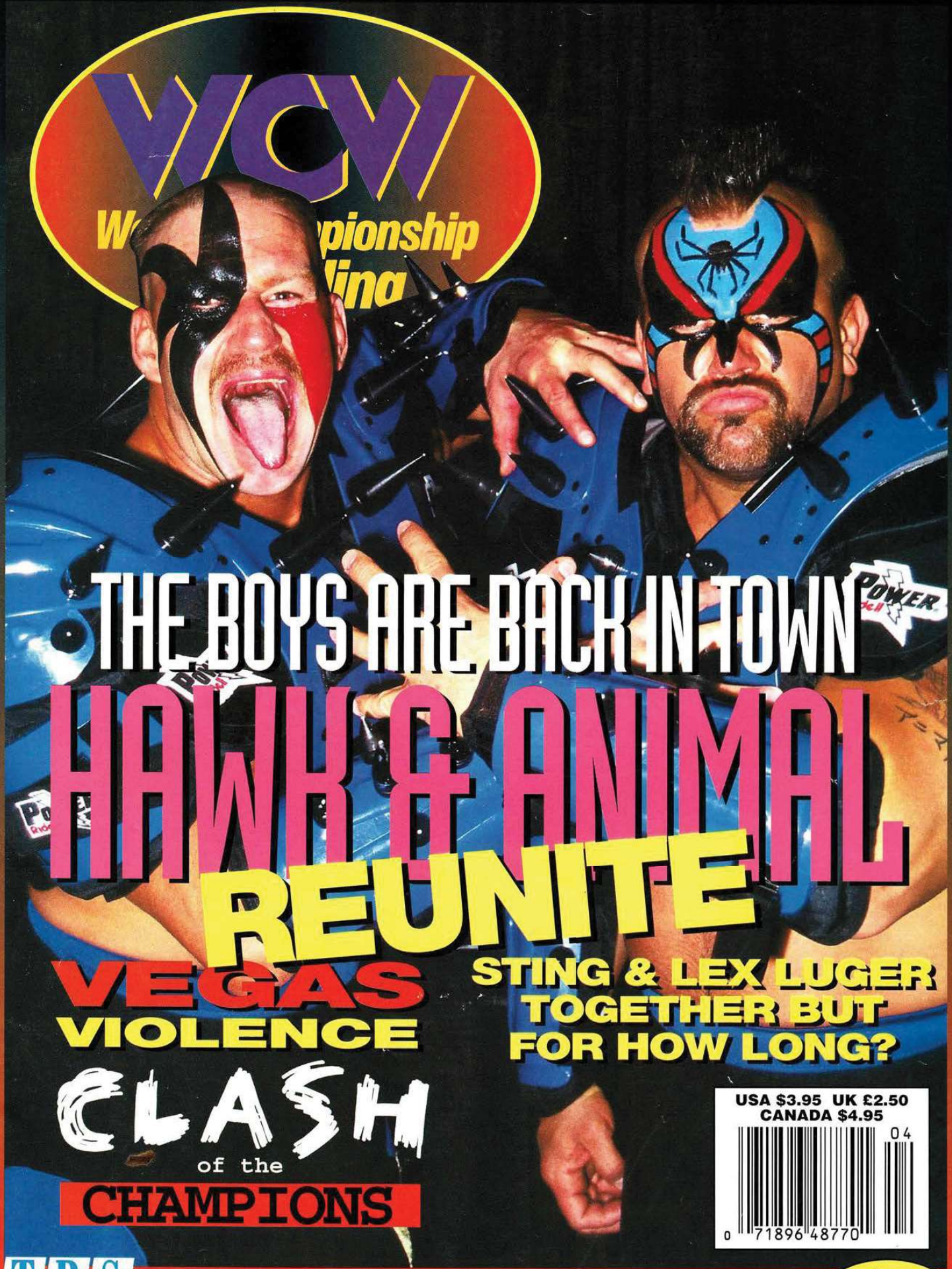
The Official Magazine of World Championship Wrestling Issue 14 April 1996



THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN

HAWK & ANIMAL REUNITE

VEGAS VIOLENCE

STING & LEX LUGER TOGETHER BUT FOR HOW LONG?

CLASH of the CHAMPIONS

USA $3.95 UK £2.50
CANADA $4.95
04
0 71896 48770

TBS SUPERSTATION Catch the HOTTEST wrestling action on TV every week! TNT

KONAN
WCW
World Championship Wrestling™

WCW World Championship Wrestling™

COLIN BOWMAN
Editor/Publication Director

ROSS FORMAN BOB SMITH
Executive Editors

FOR
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING
DR. HARVEY SCHILLER
President

ERIC BISCHOFF
Senior Vice President &
General Manager

NICK LAMBROS
Vice President
Business & Administration

LYNN BRENT
USA Magazine Co–ordinator

BOBBY HEENAN, GENE OKERLUND,
TONY SCHIAVONE,
COL. ROBERT PARKER,
LARRY ZBYSZKO, DUSTY RHODES,
JIMMY HART, ALAN SHARP,
MARK MADDEN,
LORD STEVEN REGAL, DDP
Contributing Editors

STEVE LAMPON GAVIN MOWER
Executive Art Directors

ROS SAMUELSON TIM DIGNON
Art Associates

TONI HOPKINS
USA Administrative Assistant

MARTIN COX
Subscription Manager

DUNCAN WEB OFFSET
Printer

J. STOLL COLIN BOWMAN
MARK HILL
Photography

The entire contents of this publication are copyright ©1996 World Championship Wrestling™. All rights reserved. Hulk Hogan, Hulkamania and Hulkster are trademarks of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., licensed to World Championship Wrestling, Inc. All other distinctive names and character likenesses herein are trademarks of World Championship Wrestling, Inc. Nothing in this publication may be reproduced without the express written consent of WCW™ and the Publisher.
WCW™ and the Publisher are not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. All materials submitted for inclusion in this magazine may be subject to any edits deemed neccesary by the Publisher.
WCW World Championship Wrestling.
(UK ISSN 1357-0137) (USA UPC 71896-48770) (USPS 012544) is published monthly by Cell Publishing Ltd., 28/30 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1 3ND.
Single copy price is $3.95 USA, $4.95 CANADA, £2.50 UK. Subscription rates for 12 issues are USA $38.00, UK £24.00. Subscriptions should be sent to USA & CANADA - WCW Magazine, c/o Toni Hopkins, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA30348-5366.
UK & IRELAND - WCW Magazine, 28/30 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1 3ND.
US & Canadian distribution by KABLE NEWS COMPANY INC, 11 West 42nd St, New York, NY10036.
UK & Ireland distribution by COMAG Magazine Marketing, Tavistock Rd, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 7QE. Royal Mail International, c/o Yellowstone International, 87 Burlews Court, Hackensack, NJ 07601.
'Second Class Postage Paid at South Hackensack'
'POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Royal Mail International, c/o Yellowstone International, 2375 Pratt Boulevard, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007–5937'
Printed in the United Kingdom

Editor's Note

Well now I'm really mad!

When I first relaunched WCW Magazine I promised you we would publish without fear or favor. We would take you behind the scenes and if it happened in WCW you would find out about it right here. WCW promised me a free reign, but now it seems the talk was cheap.

As part of the WCW Executive Committee's attempt to enforce law and order over WCW's wrestlers they have decided to clamp down on this magazine. You see it seems that the Committee feels that the outbreak of rulebreaking seems to be related to the magazine and the fact that the wrestlers are being more and more outrageous so that they get featured.

To prove their point the Committee attempted to have issue 13 pulled from the newsstands because we dared to print THAT picture. Having failed in that quest they tried to revoke our contract. Once again they failed. Finally they levied a considerable fine against us and gave us a final warning. They also confiscated all of our film from Clash of the Champions, so they could process it and decide for themselves what we could publish. In fact when they returned our pictures to us there were none from the Nasty Boys against Public Enemy. We were informed that publishing those pictures would send out the wrong message to wrestlers and fans alike.

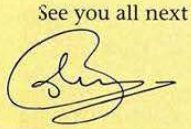
What a crock!

Here's my message to WCW's Executive Committee — WCW Magazine is not responsible for encouraging wrestlers to do outrageous things. What do you expect to happen when you have the world's best wrestlers battling it out for four titles. That's right. It's going to be rough, it's going to get nasty, and it's going to produce the best wrestling anywhere in the world. And guess what? We love it.

As for your plot to censor us, forget it. We're too smart for that (friends in photo labs are a must). We are not only publishing the pictures from Public Enemy against the Nasty Boys, but we are once again re-affirming our promise to bring WCW's fans ALL of the action just the way we always have and we have taken steps to ensure that we can.

Of course, if you feel the WCW Executive Committee is right and we should tone down, then please let us know. After all we only publish this magazine for your enjoyment.

See you all next month,



Colin Bowman
Editor

CONTENTS

ISSUE 14 APRIL 1996

ISSUE 15 ON SALE APRIL 16th 1996

FEATURES

6 **CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS**

16 **WE'RE NUMBER ONE NOW!**
Eric Bischoff answers recent criticism

18 **LOOSE CANNON!**
Flyin' Brian Pillman

32 **IN THE HOTSEAT**
Road Warriors

40 **OUT AND ABOUT**
Hockey's for Wimps!

42 **ON A ROLL– WCW IN VEGAS**

DEPARTMENTS

4 WCW UPDATE

20 BRAIN REACTION

22 EXPERT ASSESSMENT
Dean Malenko

24 THE REGAL DECREE

29 PROGRAM GUIDE & EVENT CALENDAR

30 HOTLINE BUZZ

36 COLLISION COURSE
Lex Luger vs. Sting

38 TAG TALK

45 LOOKING BACK
Magnum T.A.

46 TALKING POINT WITH TONY

47 DOWN, DESTITUTE AND PENNILESS

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

WCW Update

Come on down, Deion!

Following the Super Bowl, Deion Sanders of the Dallas Cowboys made several disparaging remarks about Kevin Greene and wrestling in general. Well his comments ruffled some feathers in WCW and have marked Deion Sanders as public enemy number one.

Sgt. Craig Pittman bellowed, "Sanders is nothing more than an undisciplined maggot. I'd love to get him in the ring so I could tear his limbs off. I'd show him who the finest athletes in the world are."

Brian Pillman was equally scathing in his retort. "If Sanders thinks wrestling is such a breeze, why doesn't he get off his pampered butt and try it. I'm here, ready, waiting and able to teach him some manners, Horseman style."

Well Deion, the gauntlet has been cast, are you man enough to take up the challenge.

Where eagles soar

As part of Johnny B. Badd's ongoing "Stay clean if you know what I mean!" program, Johnny visited Atherton Elementary (home of the Atherton Eagles) in Atlanta, GA along with the American Males and believe it or not, Disco Inferno.

The kids at the school hung on every word as first the Males and then Johnny explained to them the importance of gaining a good education and the dangers of drug abuse.

Not wishing to be left out of things, Disco Inferno interrupted Johnny as a part of his "Shake Your Booty Tour." The kids sat there stunned as Disco proceeded to list all of the wrestlers he had defeated so far on his unbeaten streak in WCW. However these were smart children and they told him they had never seen him win a match. He told them that he could not understand this and that WCW must be broadcasting edited tapes to discredit him, as he had never lost.

Oh brother, what next?

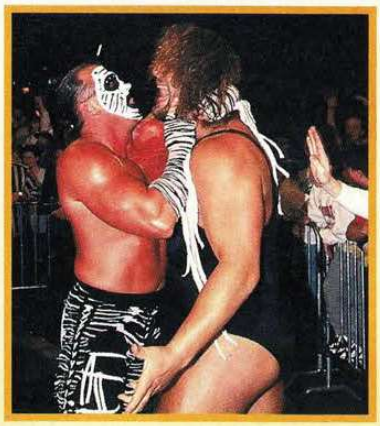
WCW EVENT NEWS

Here are the dates of WCW's upcoming major events:

March 24, 1996 **Uncensored**
May 19, 1996 **Slamboree**
June 16, 1996 **Great American Bash**
July 7, 1996 **Bash at the Beach**
August 15, 1996 **Special Event**
September 15, 1996 **Fall Brawl**
October 27, 1996 **Halloween Havoc**
November 24, 1996 **World War 3**
December 29, 1996 **Starrcade**

It's a mystery

Recently without fail envelopes containing considerable amounts of cash have been arriving at our offices. So far there has been no word who they are from and what they are for. Will someone please tell us what is going on?



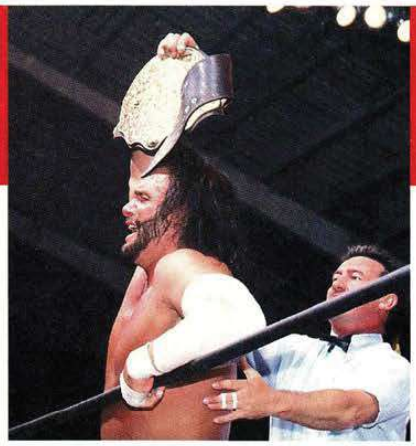
WHO IS RUNNING THE ASYLUM?

In recent weeks it has been apparent that there is a growing bond between Zodiac and the Giant. But what is it? How is it possible that the most confused man in WCW can possibly have anything in common with the most uncontrollable? And who would benefit most from this unlikely alliance. Certainly not Kevin Sullivan. Although Zodiac is a member of the Dungeon of Doom, it has always been doubtful just how loyal he is to the Taskmaster. Just think how much pleasure he could derive if he was able to steal the jewel from Sullivan's crown. Pure speculation at the moment, but it is a possibility that the Taskmaster had better guard against.

THE WAIT IS OVER

Finally after years in the wilderness, fans in the UK can now enjoy the hottest wrestling show ever — WCW NITRO. Starting on Friday, April 5th at 7 p.m. on cable and satellite channel TNT, Nitro is going to explode in the UK.

See for yourselves what all the fuss has been about, tune into Nitro. It will change your view of wrestling forever.



TITLE FRENZY

As the stakes in WCW have risen, so to has the intensity of the title challenges. In the space of just over two weeks in late-January, early February, the World, Tag Team and U.S Championships all changed hands.

First on Monday Nitro at Caesars Palace on January 22, Sting and Lex Luger won the WCW World Tag Team Championship, albeit in dubious circumstances from four-time champs Harlem Heat. Then on the same night, "Macho Man' Randy Savage became a two-time World Heavyweight Champion when he pinned Ric Flair after Arn Anderson had accidentally floored Flair with the brass knux. Finally, Mexican champion Konan cemented his impressive start in WCW when he overcame One Man Gang for the US Championship during the Feb. 4 edition of WCW Main Event. The one title that survived during the period was the Television title, but Johnny B. Badd, favoring a damaged knee was crushed in non-title bout by the seemingly indestructible Giant.

THE WEDDING THAT NEVER WAS

As everybody knows by now, Col. Parker and Sister Sherri's much heralded wedding never actually took place. It appears the sly old rooster had more than one hen in the coop and the fall-out came when Madusa attacked Sherri just before she could say I do. As we predicted in last months magazine, it was surely only a matter of time before these two met in the ring and that historic first meeting took place in Canton, Ohio. During the match Sherri showed she hadn't lost a step as she eventually overcame and pinned Madusa. However as she celebrated she was blindsided by Madusa's german suplex and left laying in the ring after Madusa had slapped her several times. It is obvious that these two girls hate each other with a passion and this battle is far from over.

As for the Colonel, well he'll just have to look elsewhere for romance.

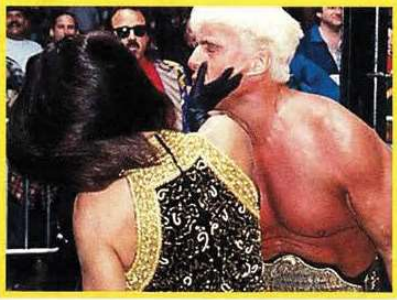
Never trust a Woman?

Almost lost in the flurry of activity in Las Vegas was the return to WCW of Woman. Why was she back? What did she want? Despite her beauty, Woman has proven herself to be one of the most devious and evil women of all time. It is now clear that things haven't changed.

We must confess we were as surprised as anyone when she walked out as part of the Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage camp. We were even more surprised when she slapped her former charge, Ric Flair. Now following her turn against Savage and Hogan and her renewed alliance with Ric Flair, questions have to be asked. Were Savage and Hogan aware of her past? Did they know that she has managed some of the most heinous rulebreakers in history and turned on anyone who did not meet up to her standards? Who was responsible for her involvement with Hulk and Randy in the first place?

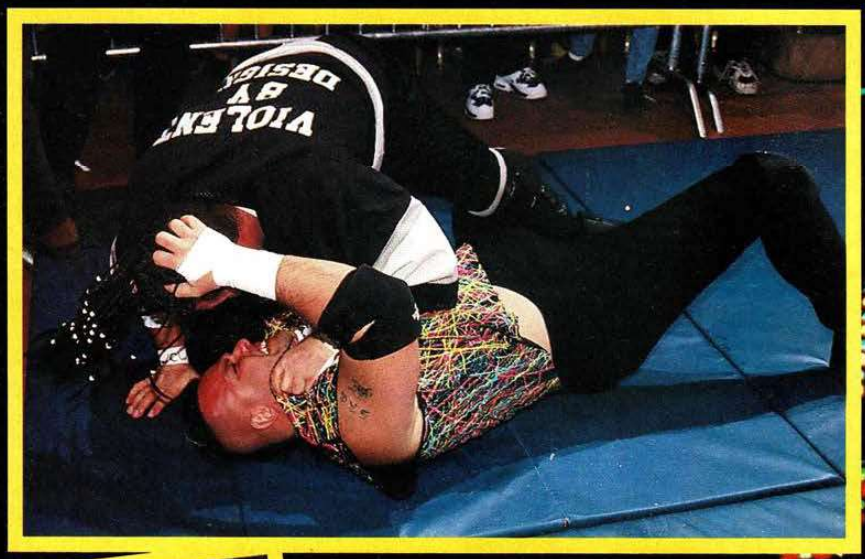
Originally when she walked out in Vegas, we were going to give her the benefit of the doubt. We're glad we didn't because boy, would we look stupid now. The old saying has never been more true, "Leopards cannot change their spots."

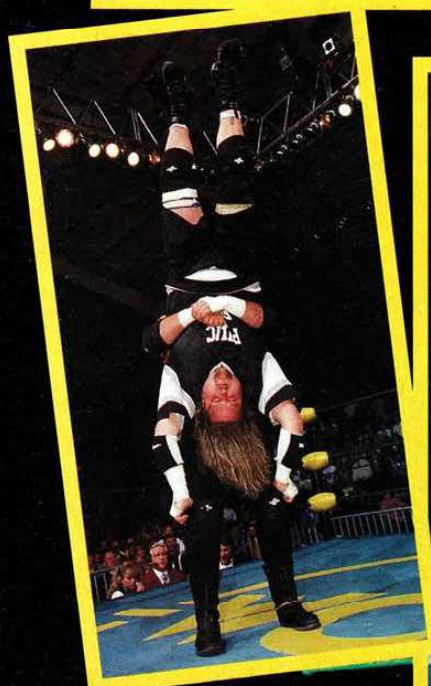
WCW, Hulk Hogan, Randy Savage - beware. This is one cat who isn't afraid to use her claws to get what she wants.

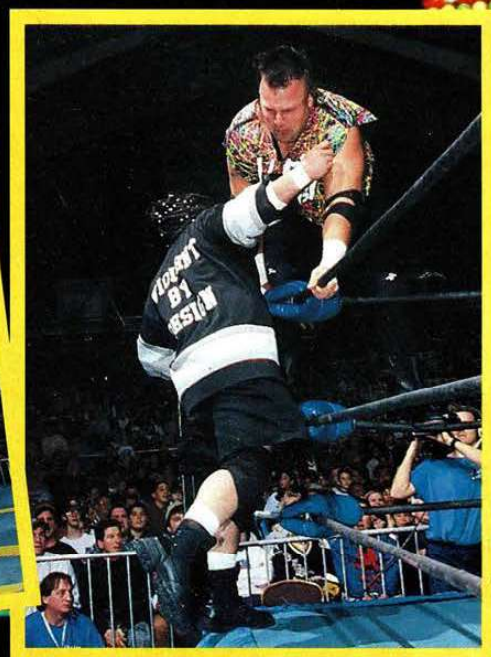


CLASH of the CHAMPIONS Veg

Las Vegas has long been known as the entertainment capital of the world, but when WCW invaded Caesars Palace for two days in January, it became the wrestling capital of the world as well! On WCW Monday Nitro, Randy Savage beat Ric Flair for the WCW World Championship, and Lex Luger and Sting defeated Harlem Heat for the World Tag Team title ... and that all happened the night before this incredible and historic Clash!



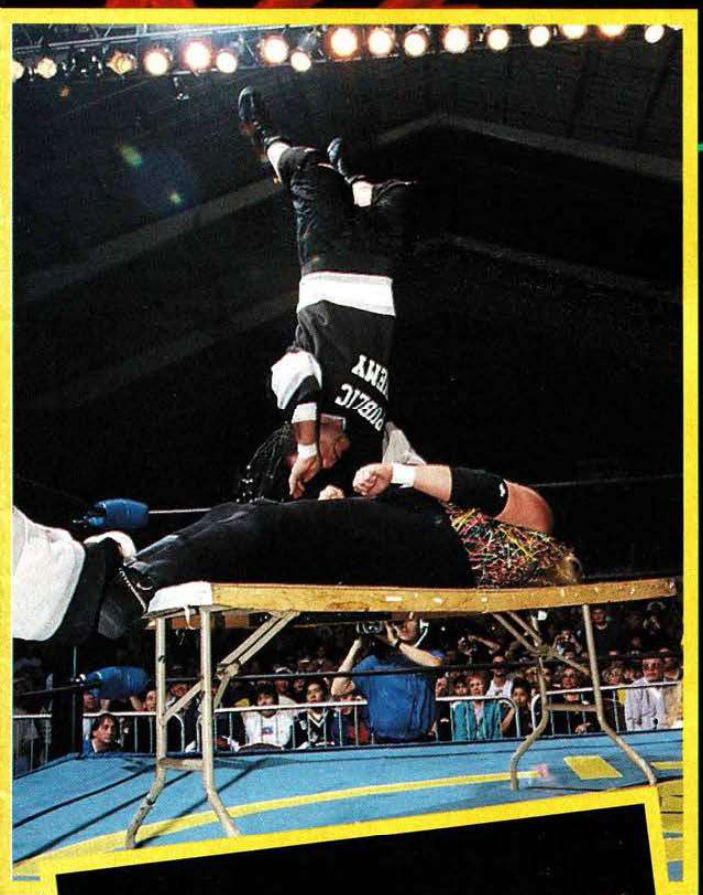


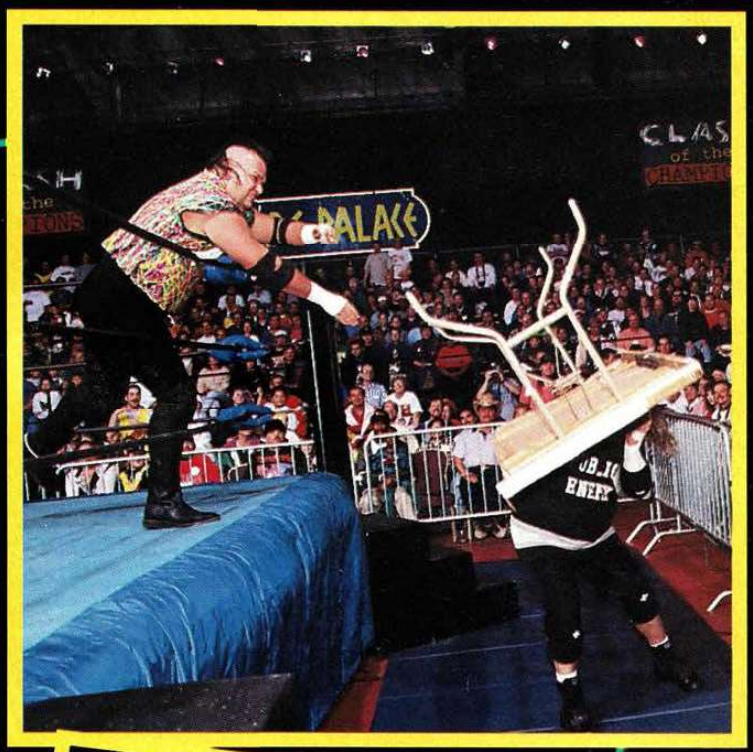


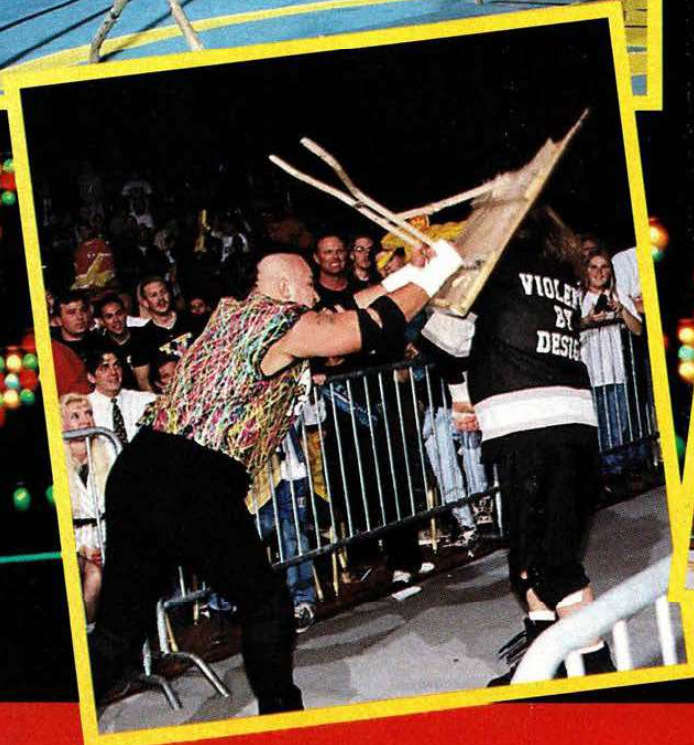
The Nasty Boys vs Public Enemy

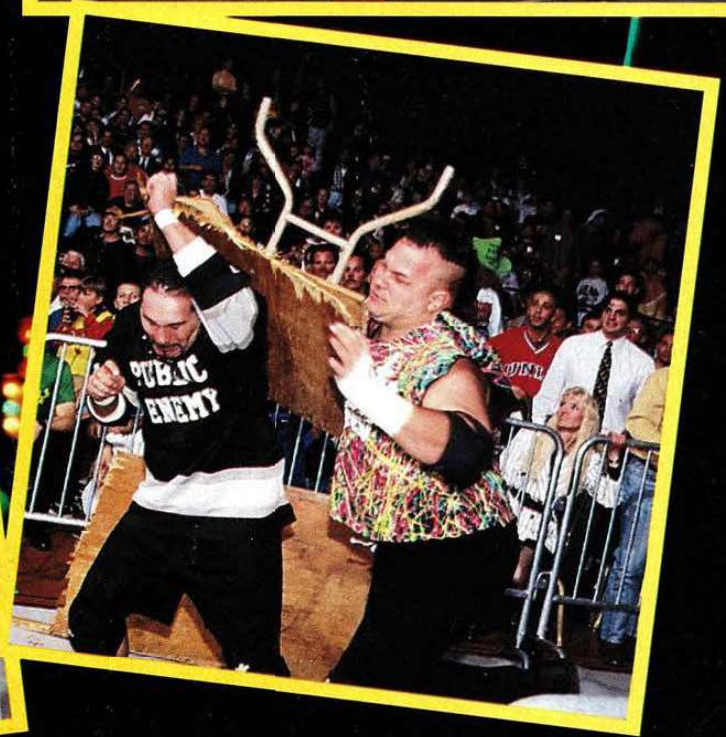
"Flyboy" Rocco Rock and Johnny Grunge had been plying their "Violence By Design" in minor East Coast federations for years, but they wanted to compete where the big boys play! They couldn't find two bigger or nastier boys than Knobs and Sags! From the opening bell, the rulebook was thrown out the window as these four brawlers battled both in and out of the ring. It was wild! It's usually Public Enemy who bring a table into the proceedings, but the wily Sags knew all about PE's rep. It was Sags that went backstage and brought out a huge table! When the Nasties set up the table in the ring, referee Nick Patrick had no choice but to throw the match out and declare it a double-disqualification, but after that Rock, moonsaulted Knobs atop the table. Afterwards, an enraged Sags blasted Grunge with pieces of the table all the way back to the dressing room. This is the beginning of a dangerous feud, to be sure, but what four men could be as exciting?

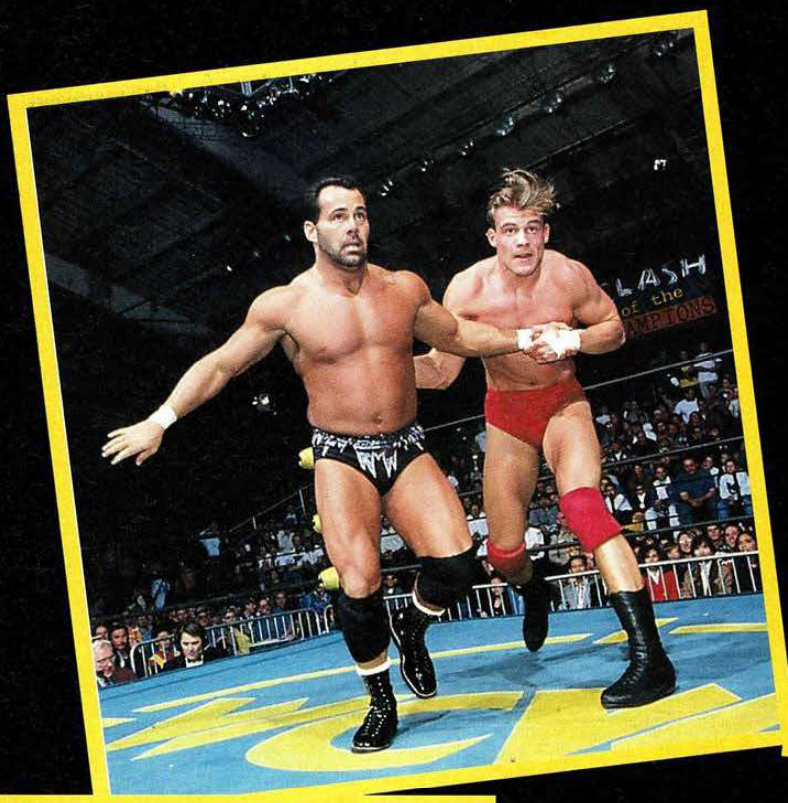
as violence!

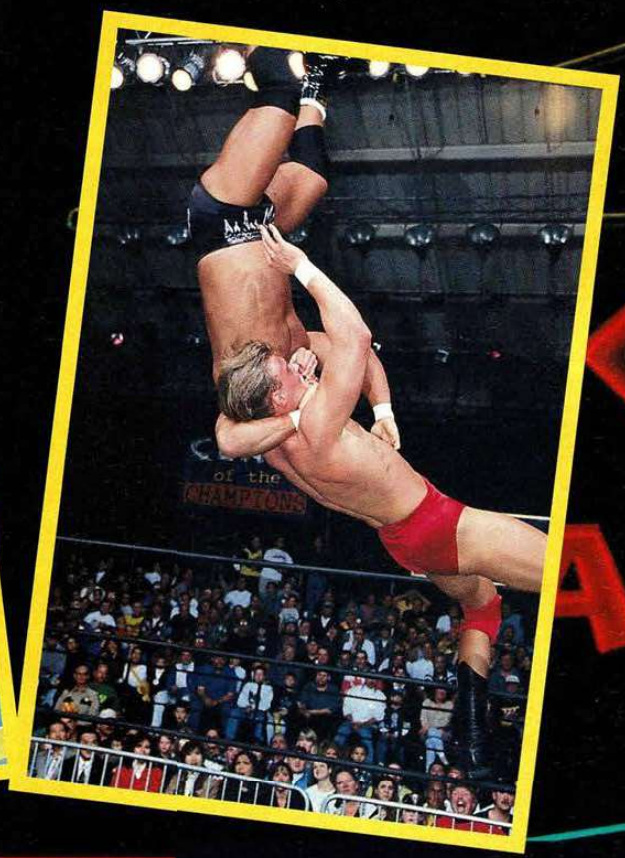


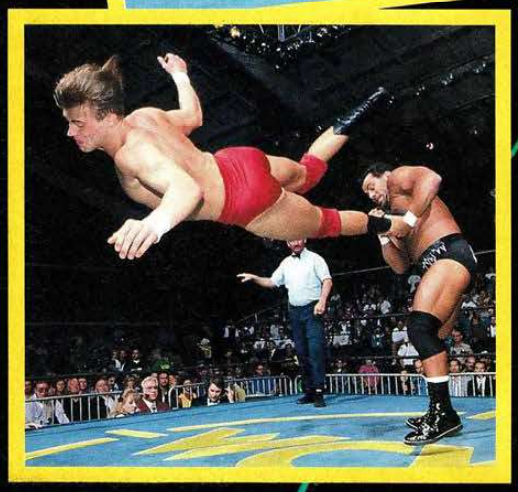






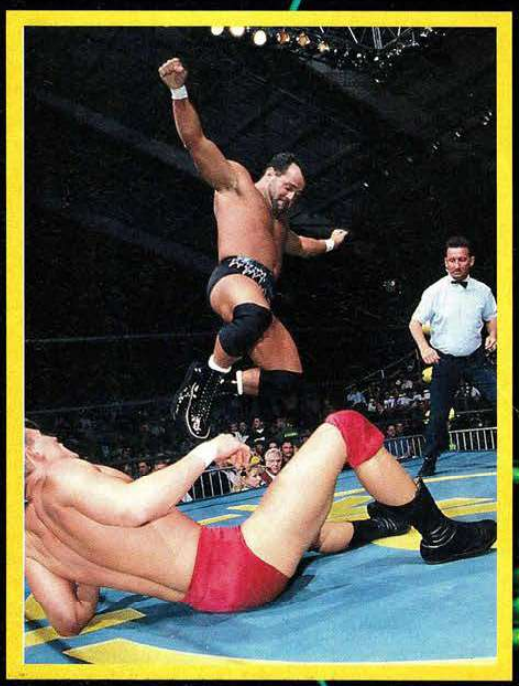


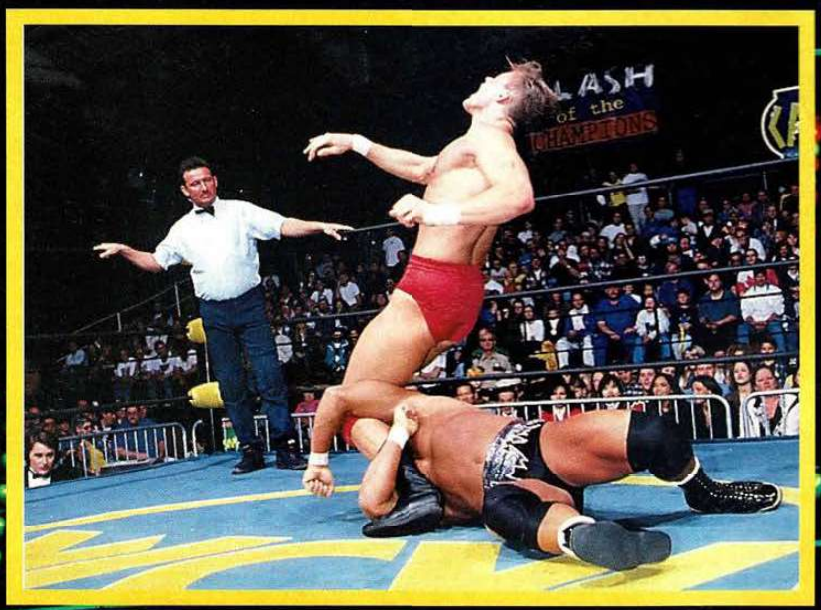


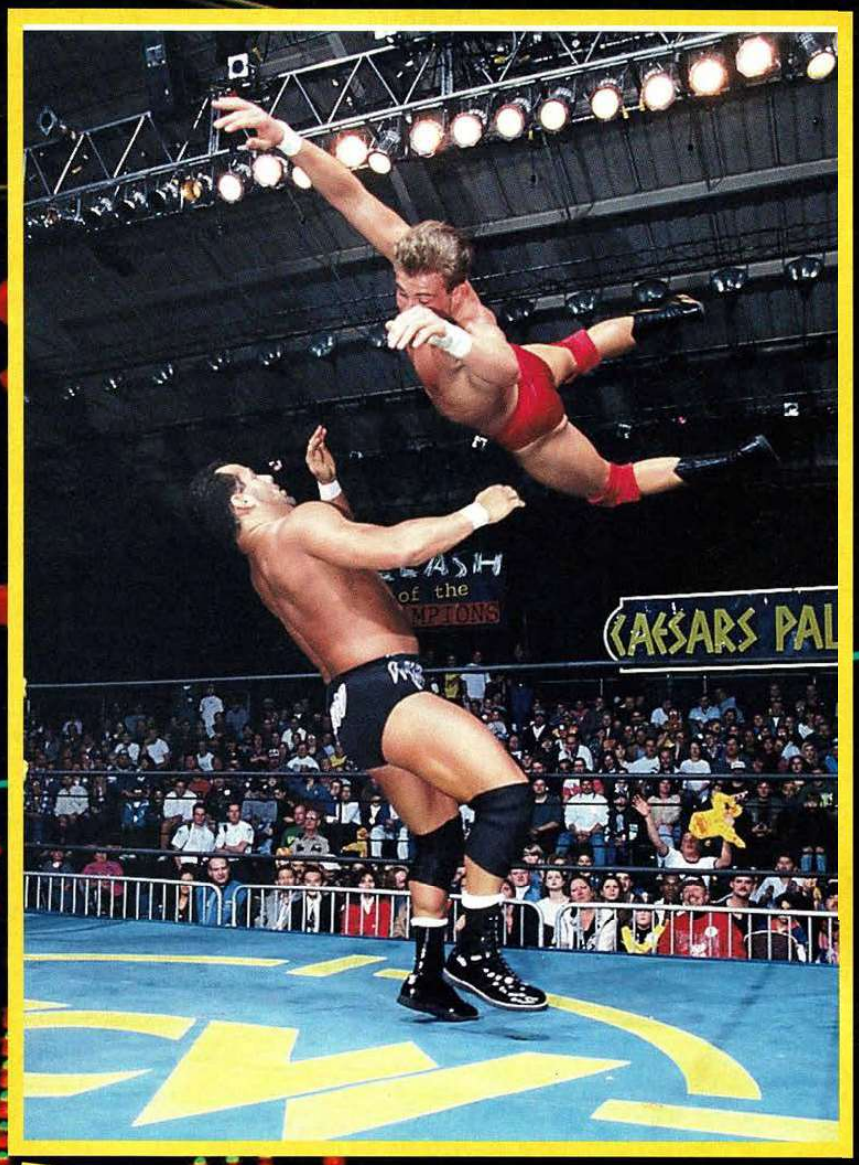


Dean Malenko
VS
Alex Wright

On the previous week's edition of WCW Saturday Night, Malenko had locked Wright into a Texas cloverleaf finisher, forcing the popular "Das Wunderkind" to surrender. However, it was after the match that the usually cool-headed "Man Of 1,000 Holds" refused to break the hold, nearly injuring Alex in the process and earned himself defeat via reverse decision. It was a hobbled yet determined Wright who asked for this rematch, and it was Wright who righteously pulled out all the stops in giving Malenko the match of his WCW career. When a flying headscissors by Wright sent Malenko flying out of the ring, Malenko knew that Wright meant serious business. After minutes of frantic and rugged action, Malenko scored the pin with a gorgeous slide-kick to Wright's knee, followed by a suplex-rollup. It's clear now that Mr. Malenko has learned to respect Mr. Wright just a little more than he used to, and although he lost this bout, it's also clear that Wright is just months away from true international superstardom.

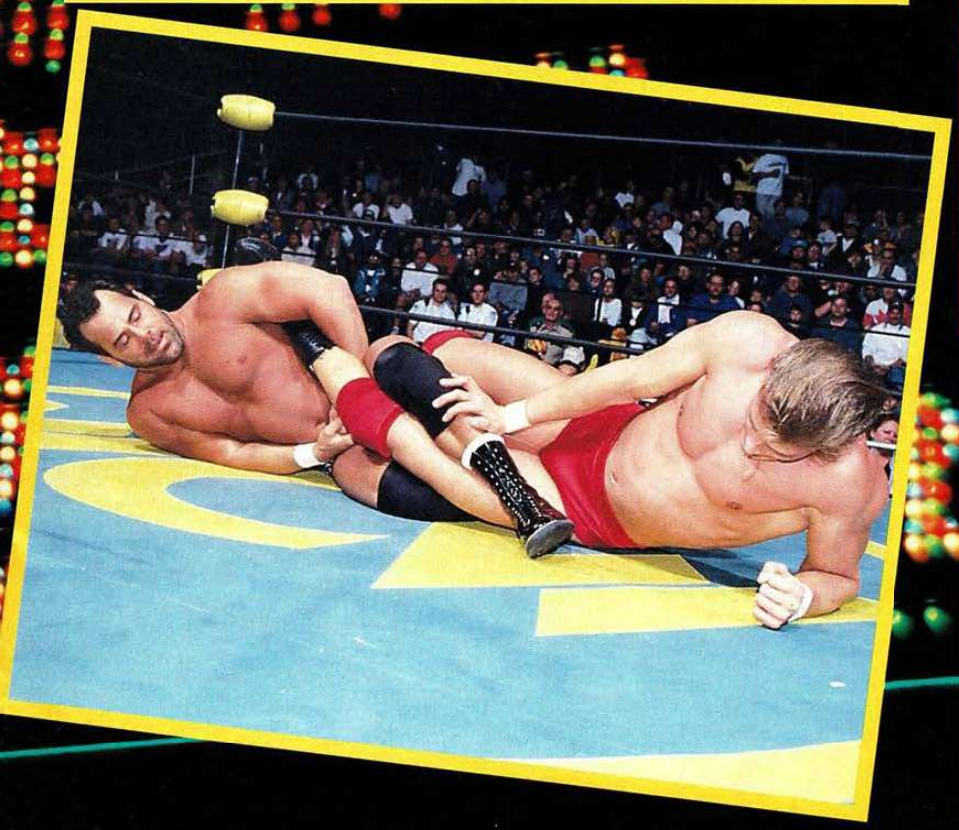


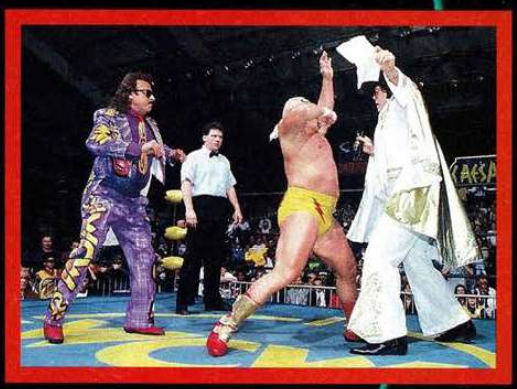


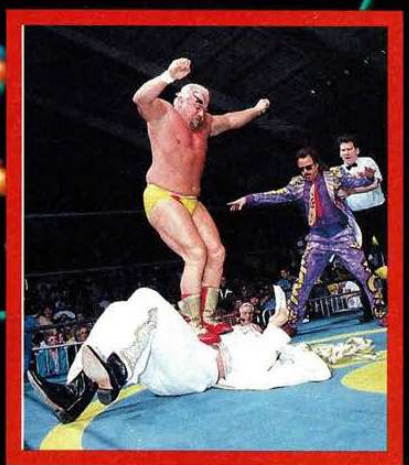


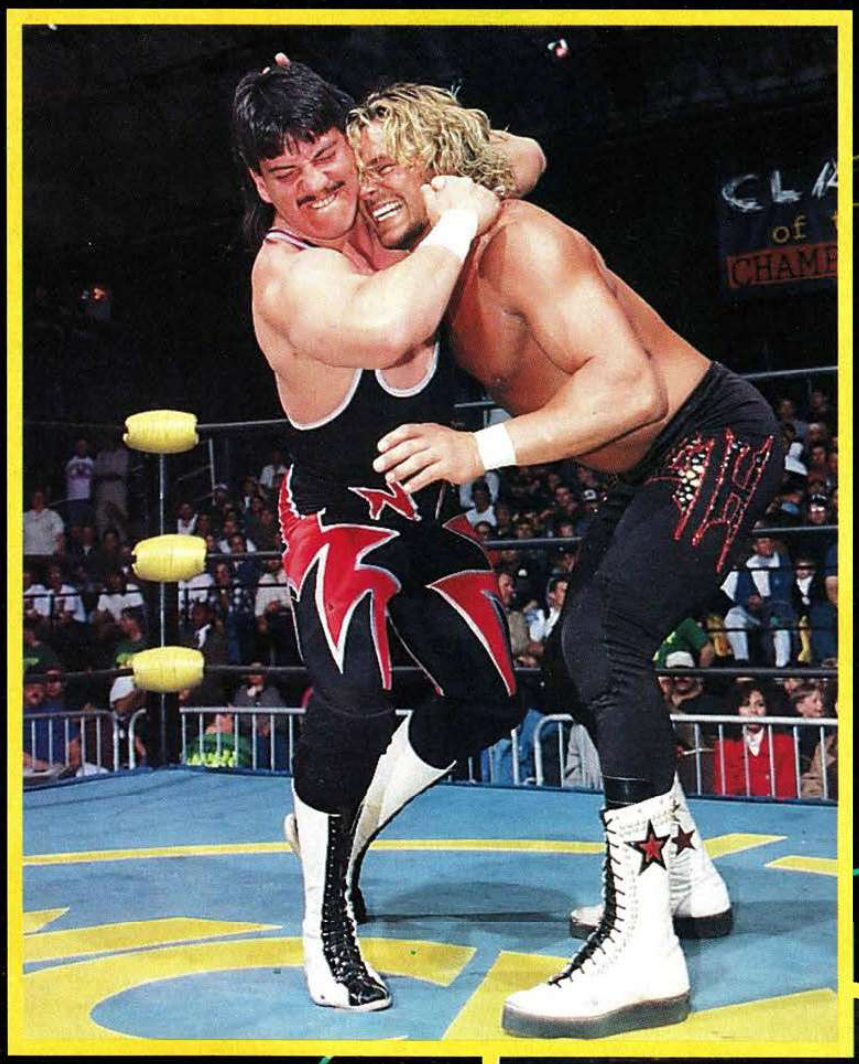
Kevin Sullivan VS Disco Inferno

We don't quite know how to describe this incredibly odd occurrence, so allow us to just say this: In a decision that Inferno will likely regret for a long time, he skipped out on this bout in order to "entertain" at the "wedding" of Sister Sherri and Col. Rob Parker. Inferno sent out an awful Elvis Presley impersonator in his place to announce that Disco would not be there to take part in the match. For his efforts, the Elvis impersonator got the snot beat out of him by an enraged Sullivan! Now, about that wedding ...



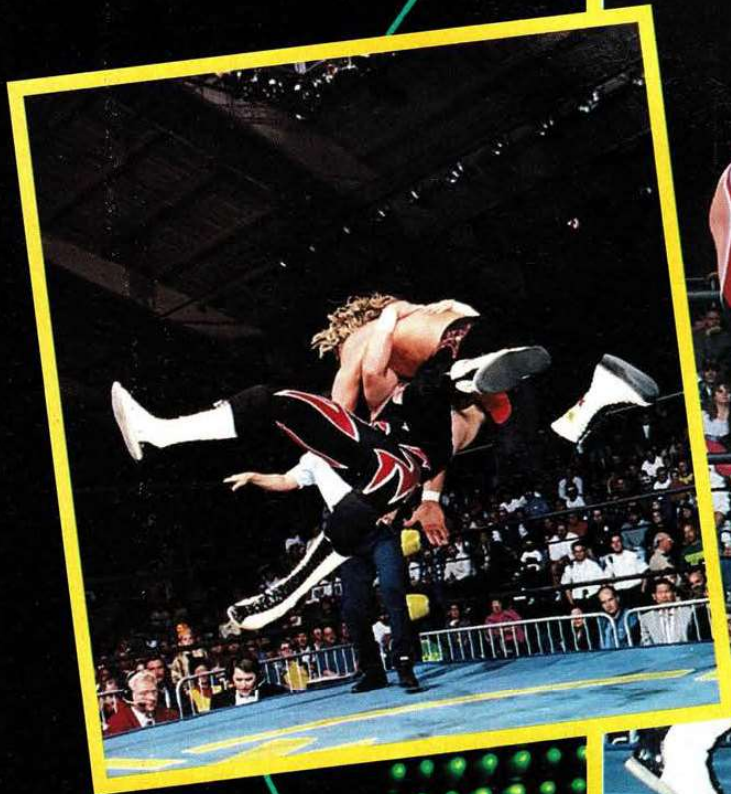


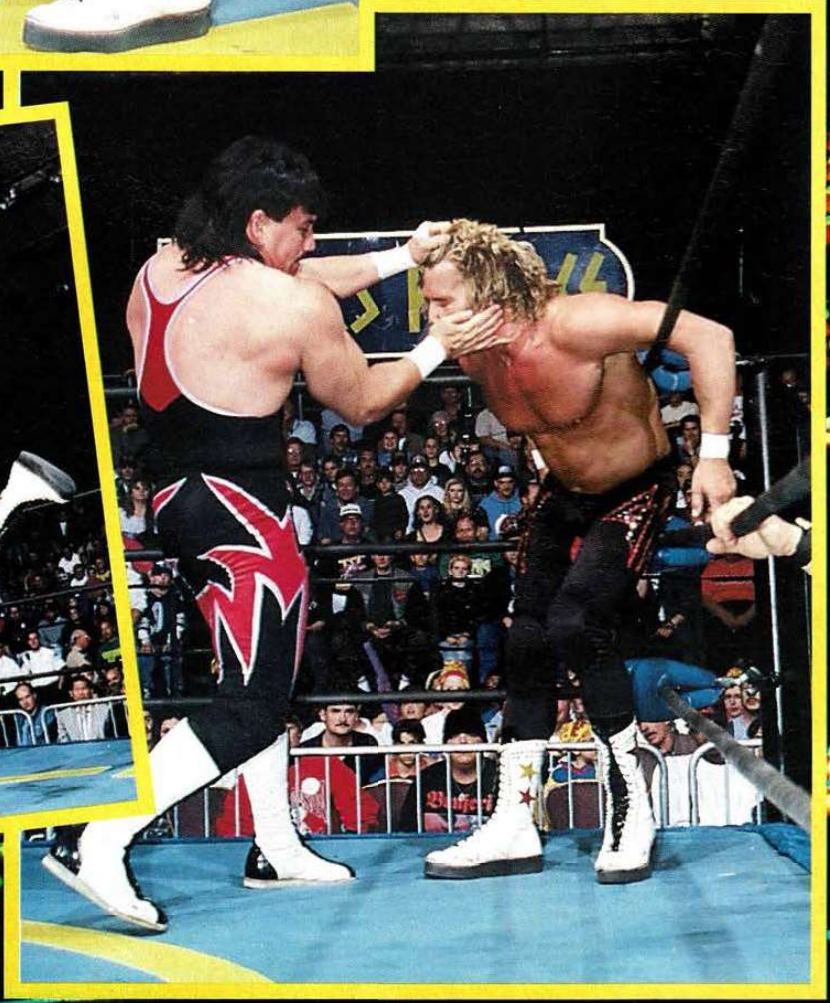


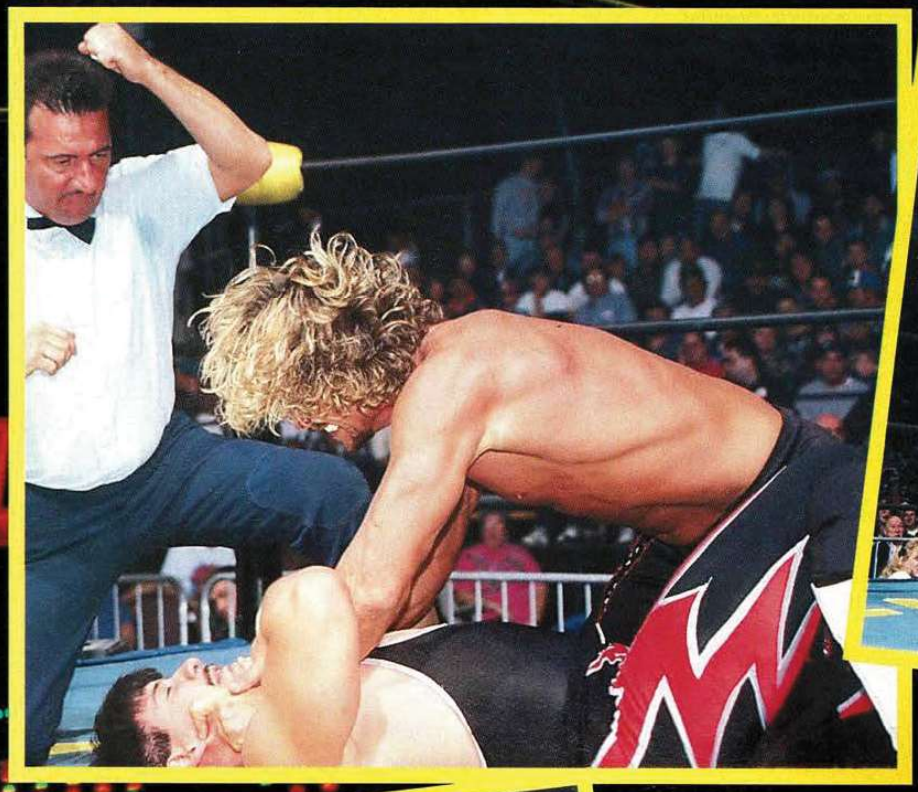


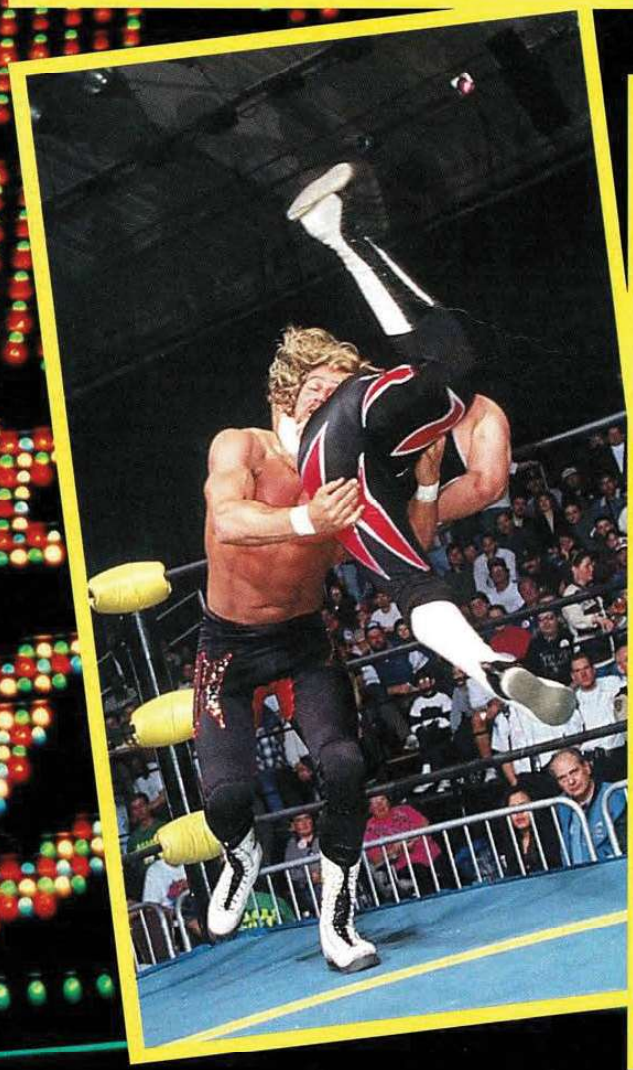
Flyin' Brian Pillman VS Eddie Guerrero

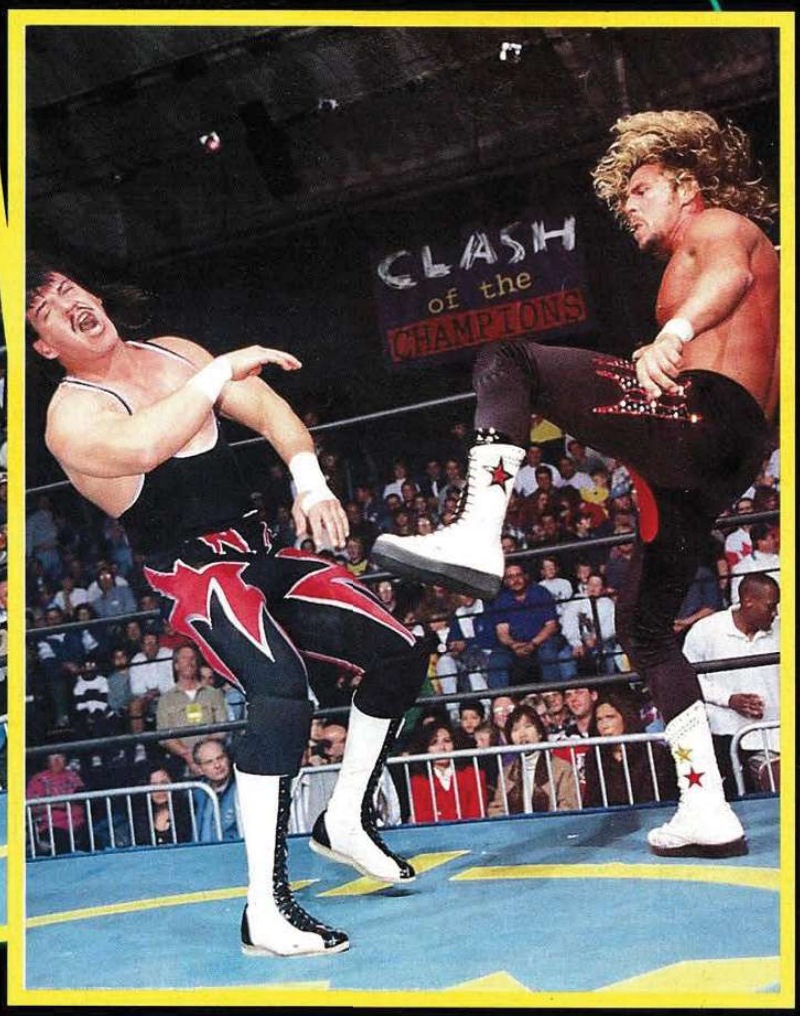
Is there any grappler in the world with more guts, courage, and determination than the incredible Eddie Guerrero? Conversely, is there any wrestler more crazed, loony, and out-of-control than Brian Pillman? At one point during this fabulous scientific encounter, Pillman ducked away from Guerrero behind ringside color commentator Bobby Heenan and started to rough "The Brain" up just a bit too much. Heenan's reaction was to utter some expletives and nearly leave the arena in a huff! To his credit, Guerrero wasn't about to be swayed by Pillman's odd tactics. At one point, he administered one of the most incredible spinning suplexes ever, nearly winning the bout against his Horseman foe. In typical Horseman fashion, Pillman scored the pinfall after a flying cross-bodyblock, but had to pull the tights of Guerrero to score the pinfall.







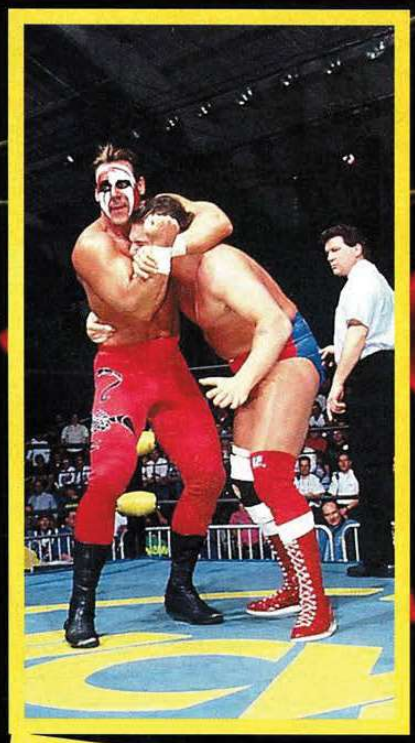


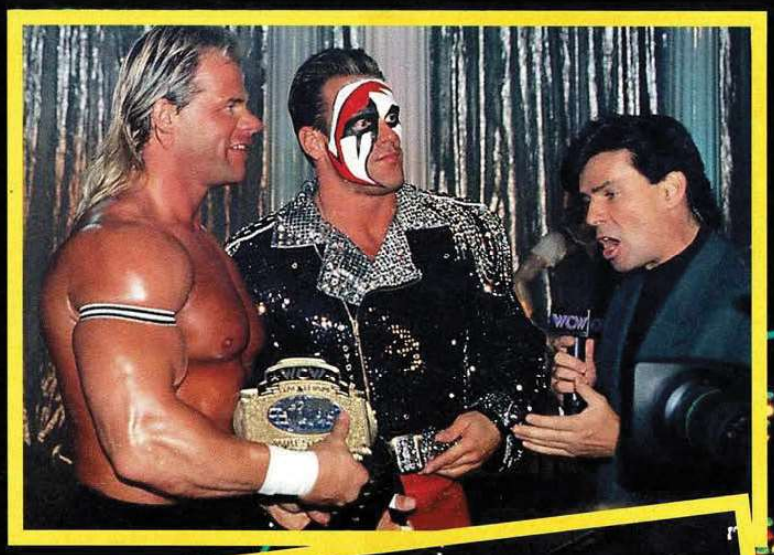

CLASH
of the
CHAMPIONS

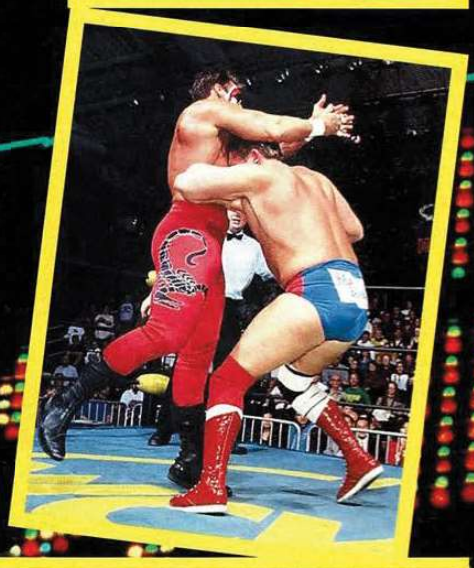
Lex Luger & Sting
VS
The Blue Bloods

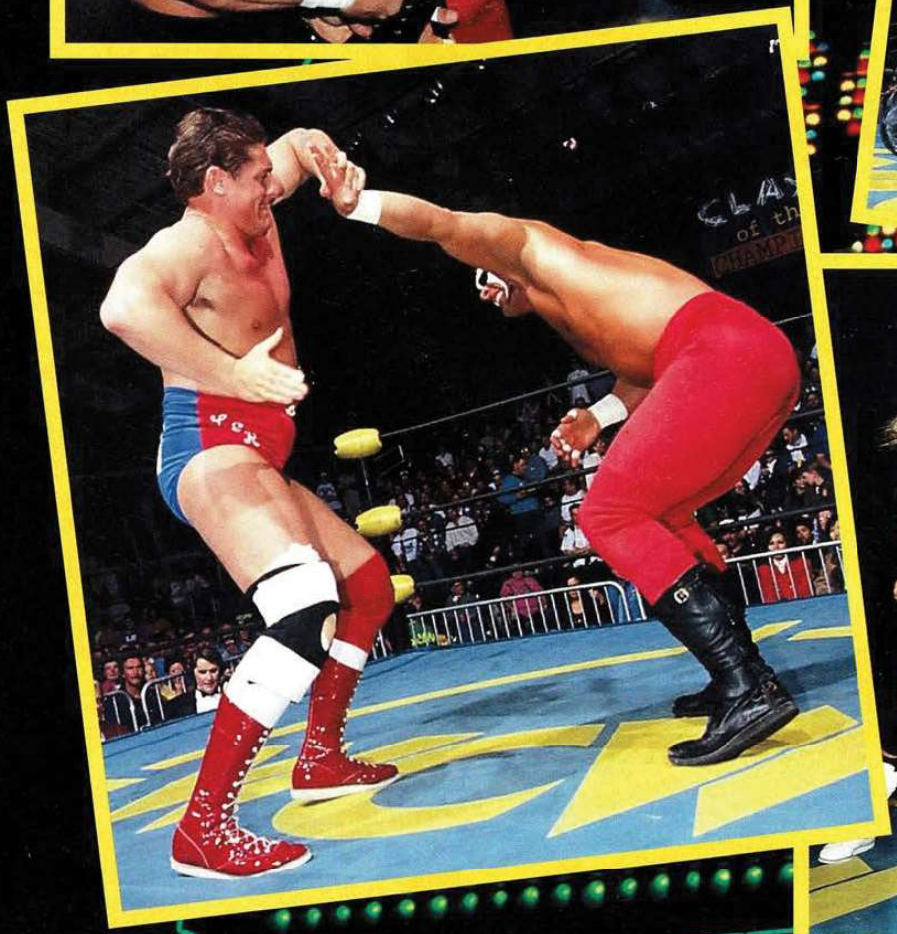
WCW World Tag Team Championship

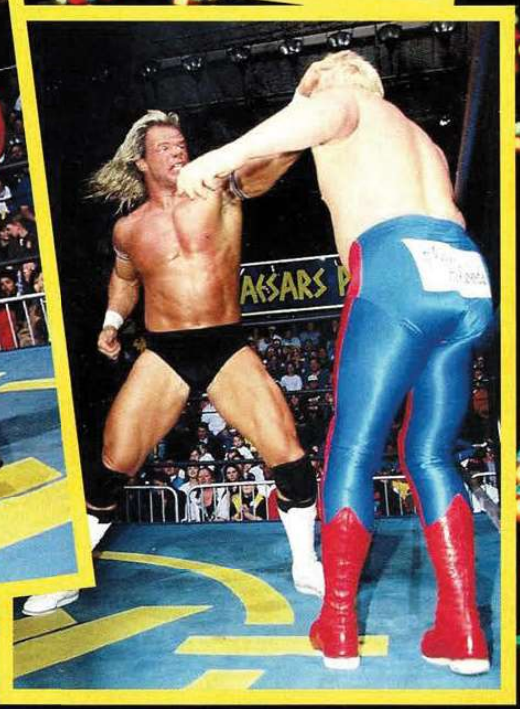
The "Total Package" and the Stinger had scored the title victory on WCW Monday Nitro the previous evening, and it took Luger, Jimmy Hart, and roll of Caesars Palace silver dollars to get the job done. When this match occurred, it seemed as if Sting had not been aware of the nefarious tactics used by Hart and Luger to beat Harlem Heat, and if he had, he might've been quite upset. Sting and Luger came out against Lord Steven Regal and Earl Robert Eaton with guns blazing, and their teamwork was impeccable. The Blue Bloods, clearly WCW's most underrated tag team at this juncture, proved why they're just inches away from being champions, with Regal battering Luger with European uppercuts and Eaton scoring with a great top-turnbuckle kneedrop onto the head of Sting. Fresh off their title win, Sting battled back strong, eventually locking Eaton in his Scorpion deathlock and a very worthwhile title victory was scored. Very much unlike the previous night!





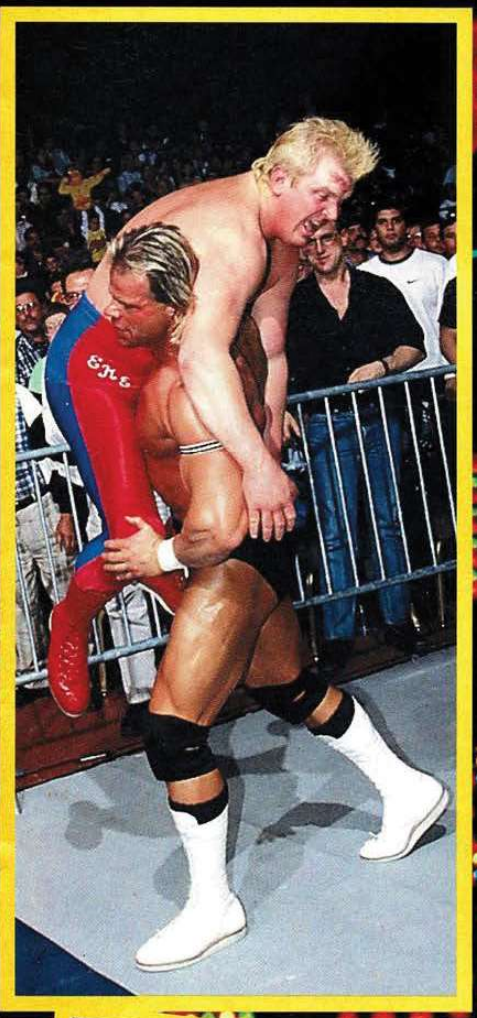


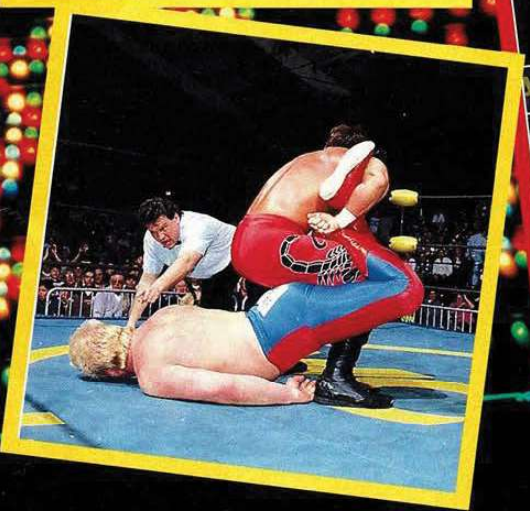


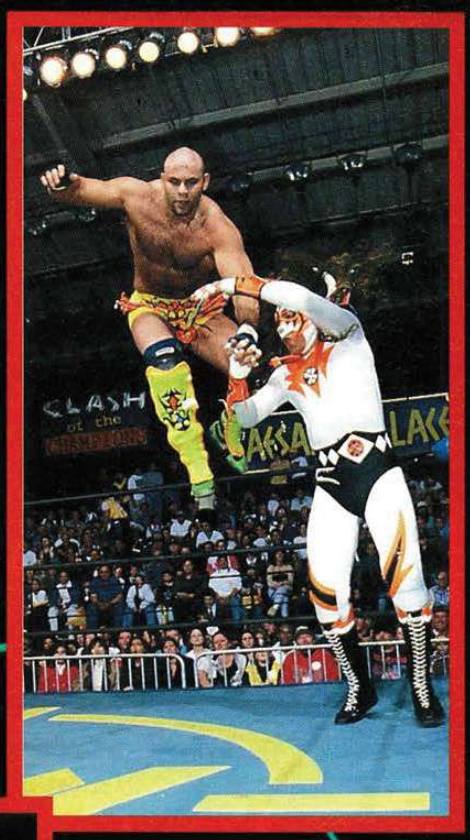


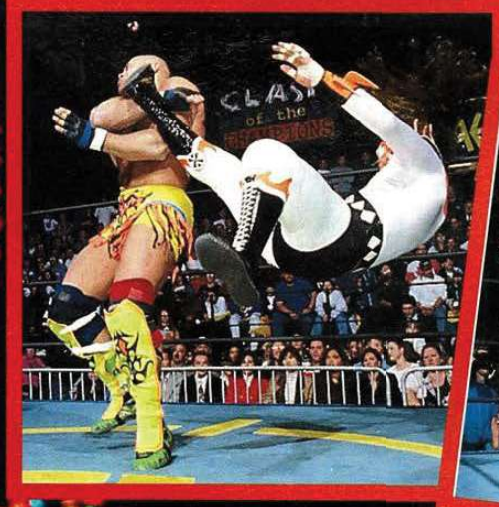
Konan VS Psychosis

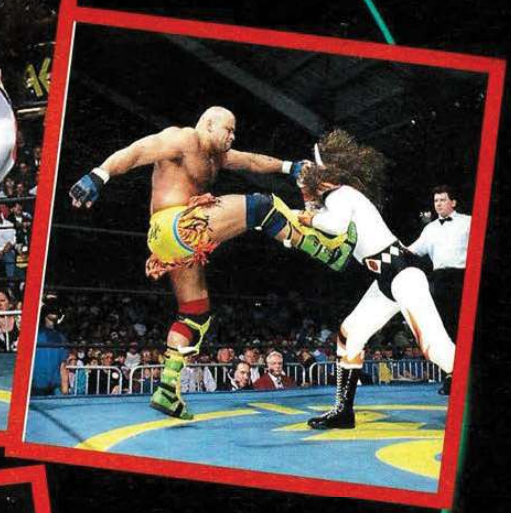
This match was a thrill for WCW fans who have never had the pleasure of viewing great Lucha Libre-style Mexican wrestling action. Konan, the muscular Mexican champion, had his hands full with the lithe suplex master Psychosis, but these two have had many battles on their native turf. Konan became the first man in WCW history to BLOCK a Frankensteiner by using his upper-body power and leg strength to stay locked to the top rope, and then followed it up with his "Zip Lock" submission hold, which rendered Psychosis' hand and legs useless and in danger of snapping. It was a great WCW return for Konan and great precursor to his shock defeat of One Man Gang to win the US title just over a week later.

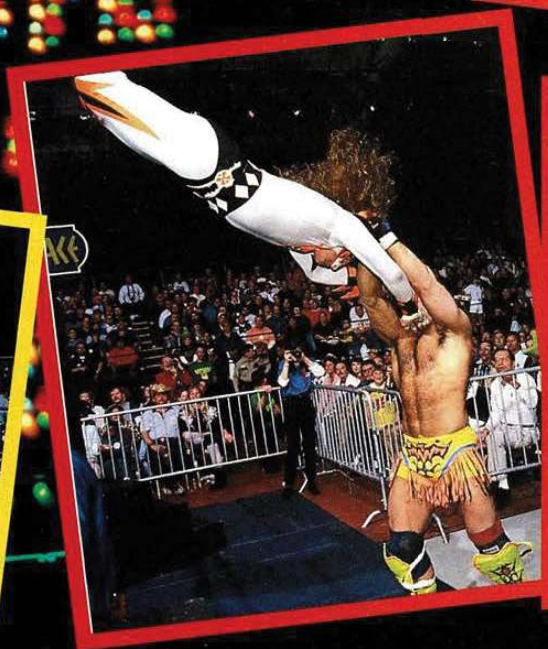


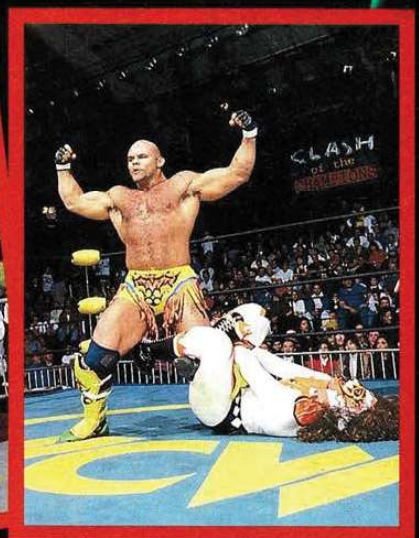


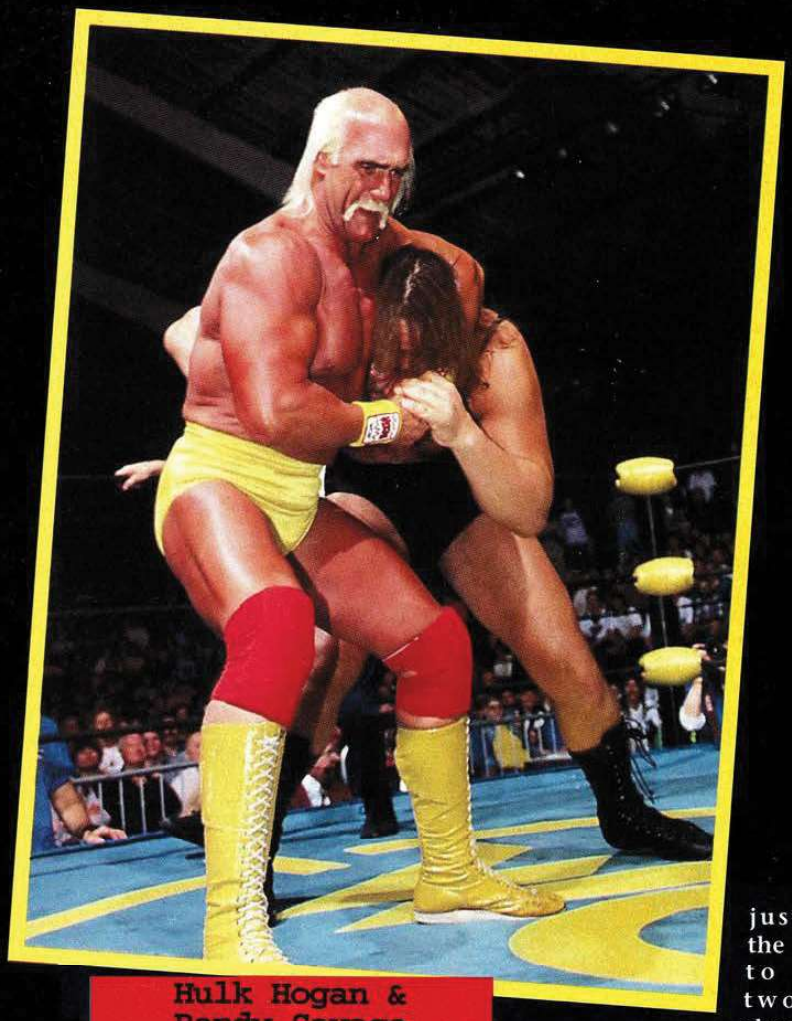


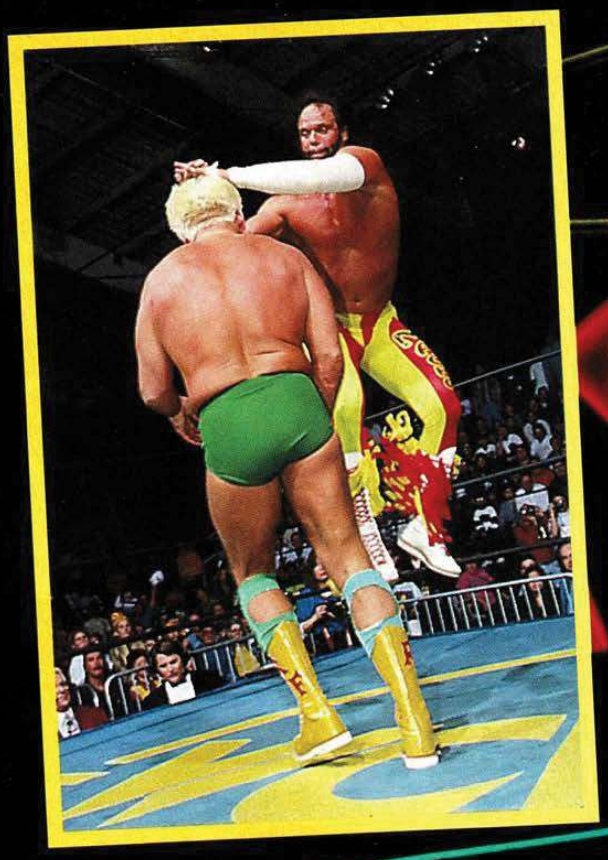










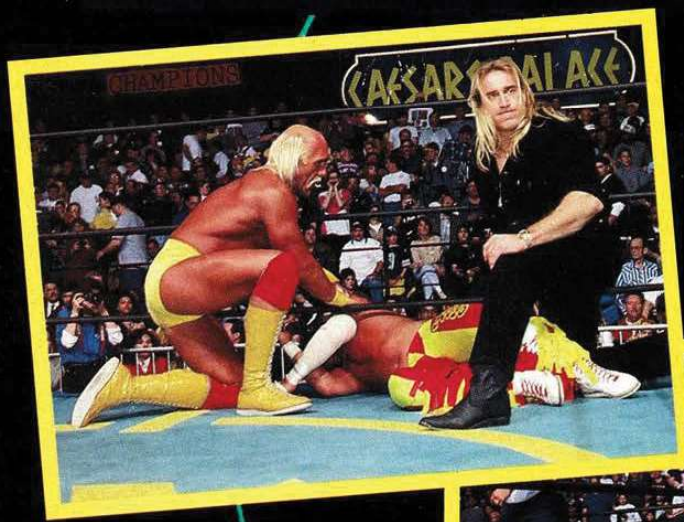


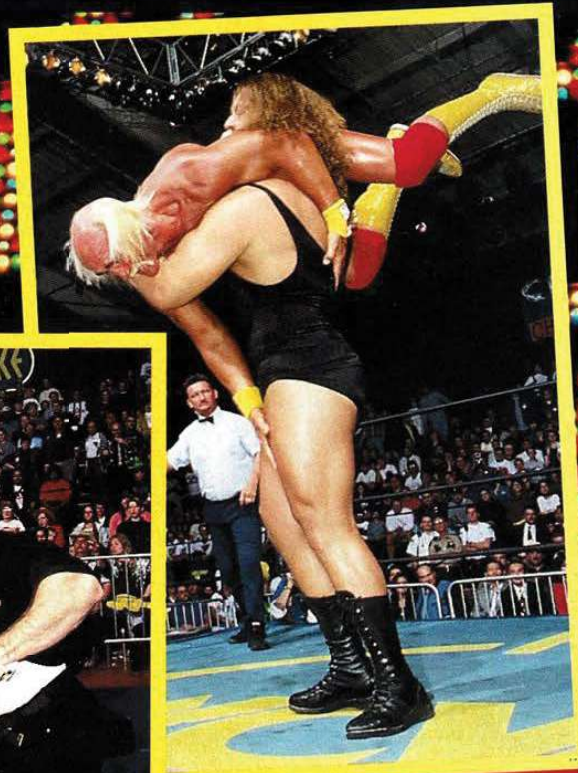
Hulk Hogan & Randy Savage

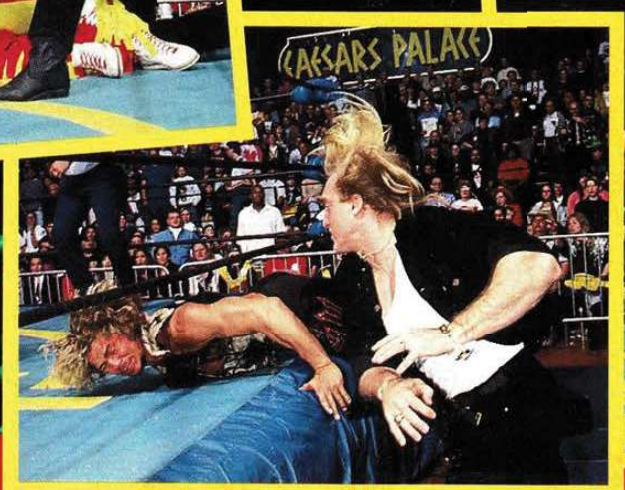
VS

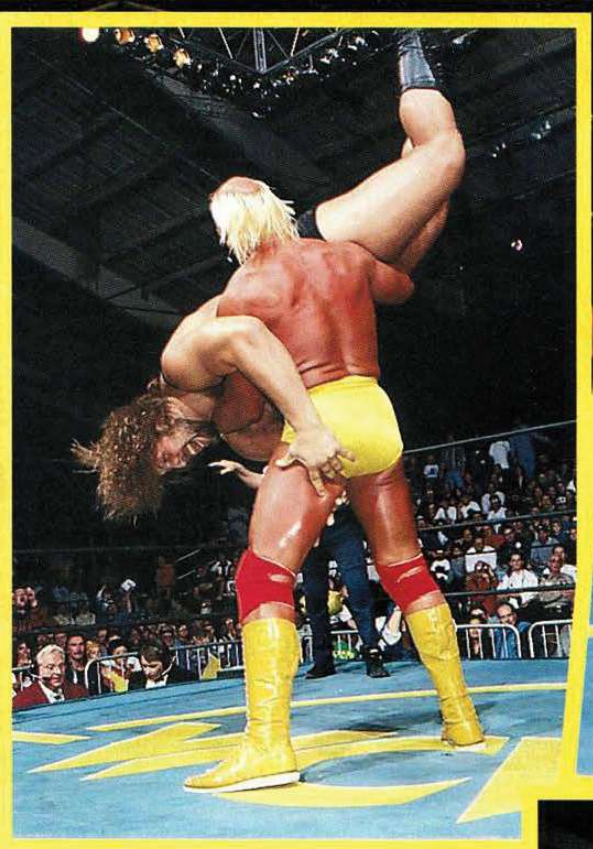
The Giant & Ric Flair

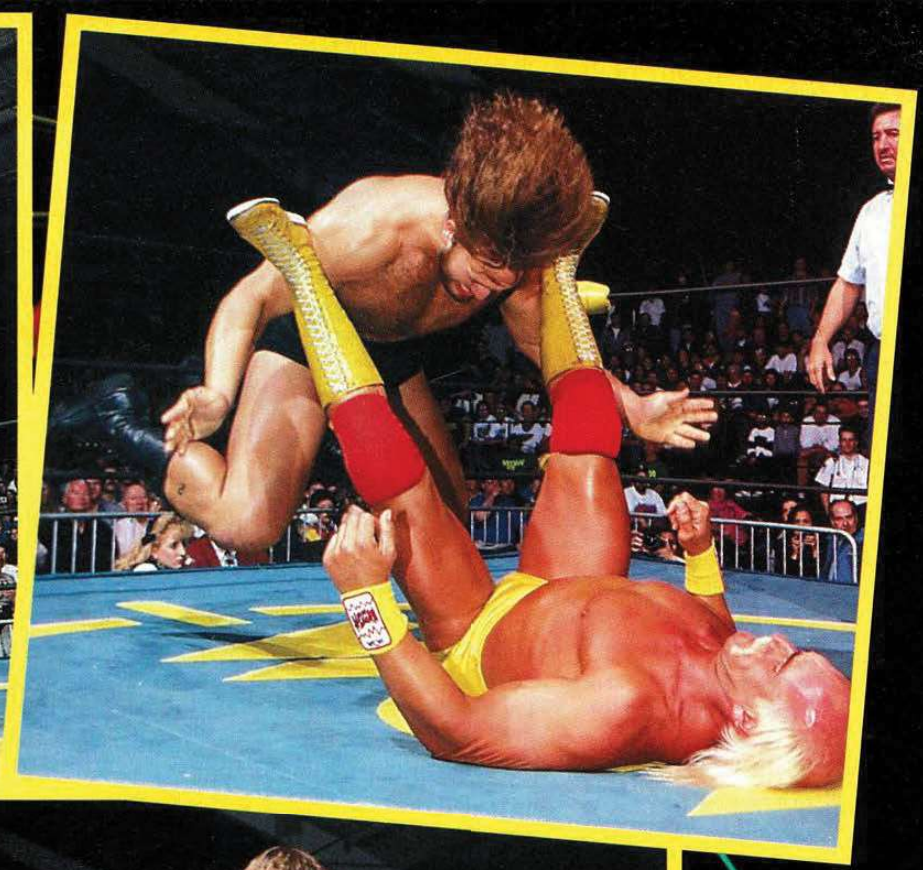
Hogan and Savage put aside their singular quests for the WCW World title, which Savage had just regained the night before, to unleash two ringside shockers: The lovely Elizabeth was back, and Pittsburgh Steeler wildman Kevin Greene was there to make sure the Dungeon Of Doom and the Horsemen didn't try to injure his popular pals. Early in the bout, Flair goaded Greene into the ring, but when Greene got into his three-point stance, Flair bolted to ringside. Once the action began in earnest, it was clear that the fans wanted to see the 7'4" Giant tangle with Hogan, and that they did. At first, the Giant pushed around Hogan with ease. The Hulkster couldn't come near bodyslamming his huge foe, but the Giant was able to bodyslam Hogan with ease. In fact, the Giant fairly pummeled Hogan, but true to form, Hulk battled back, even managing to



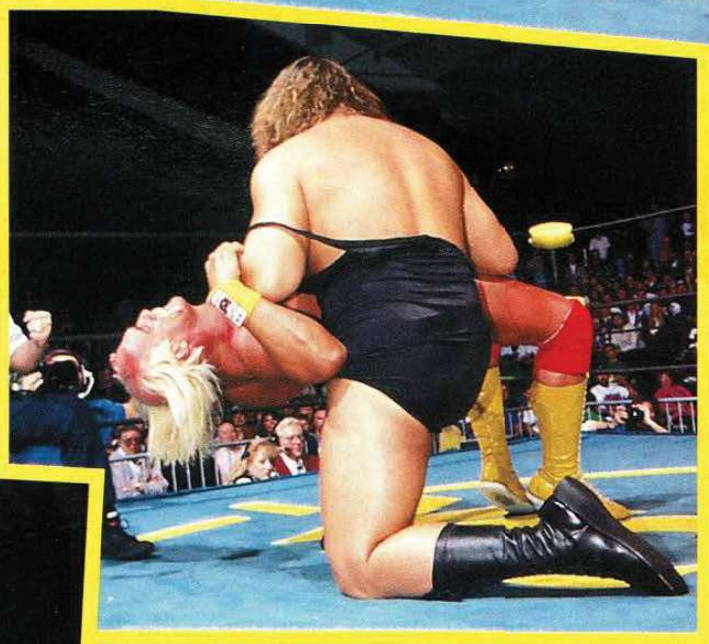


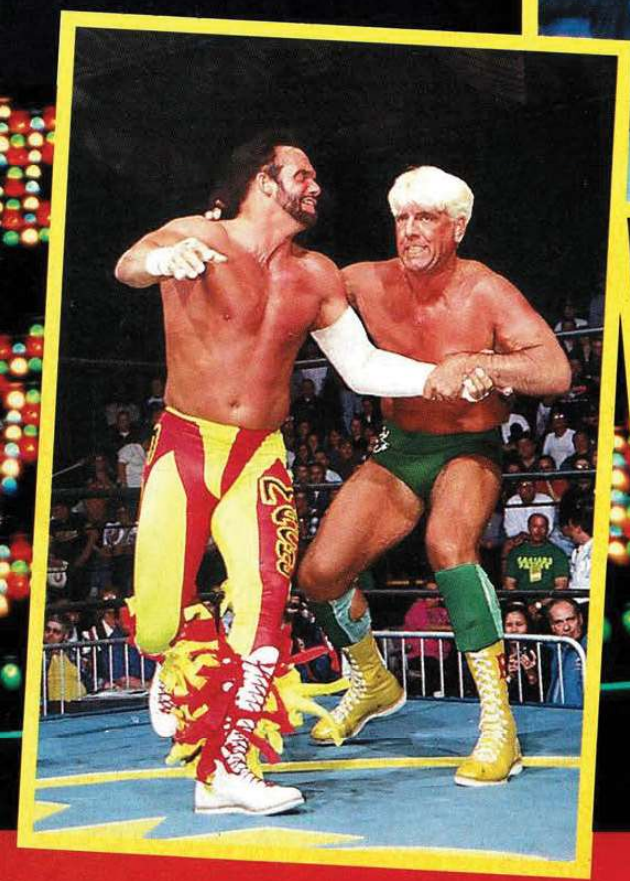


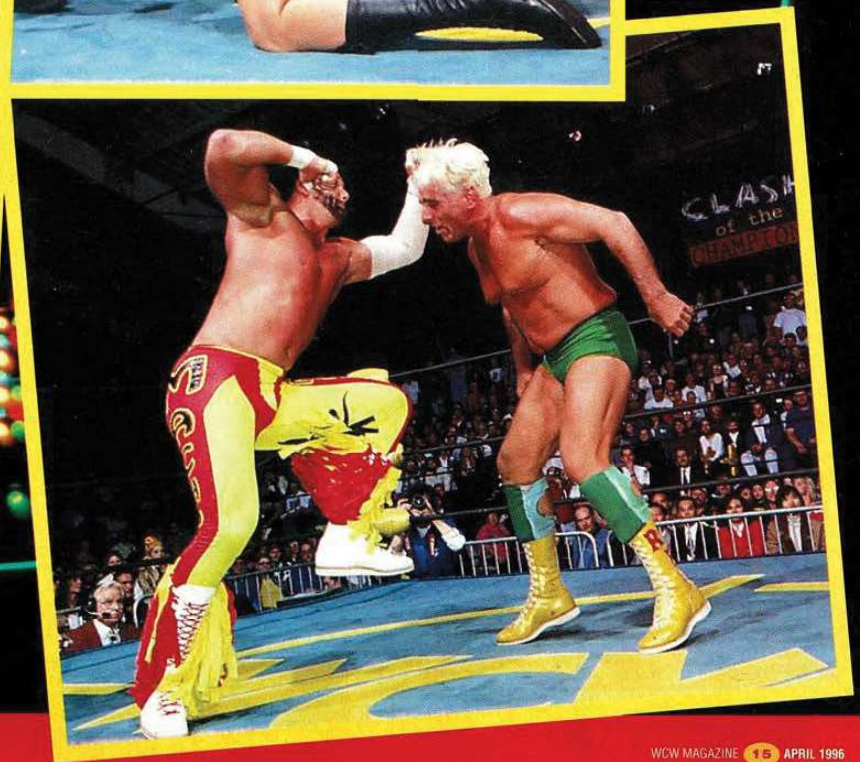




bodyslam his huge opponent! As Hogan and Savage's enemies ran to the ring, chaos ensued, and Flair scored an illegal pin on Savage after Flair clocked him with a foreign object. After the bell, Dungeon members and the Horsemen stormed the ring, but they were driven away by Greene, Hogan and Savage!







JUST ACCEPT IT, WE'RE NUMBER ONE NOW

BISCHOFF LETS THE RATINGS ANSWER THE WWF MOCKING

In the early-1980s, Eric Bischoff worked for Verne Gagne's now-defunct American Wrestling Association (AWA), a Minnesota-based promotion. Vince McMahon, meanwhile, was organizing a corporate giant, the World Wrestling Federation (WWF), that soon depleted Gagne's wrestling roster and, in the process, changed the way the wrestling world worked (national versus a regional promotion).

"I was there when Verne refused to accept the fact that there was someone out there who was smarter, thinking bigger and with more resources," Bischoff said in early-1996. "Verne reacted much the same way to Vince McMahon that Vince McMahon is now reacting to World Championship Wrestling. Yes, there's a real parallel there."

"Vince McMahon is clearly becoming the Verne Gagne of the 1990s."

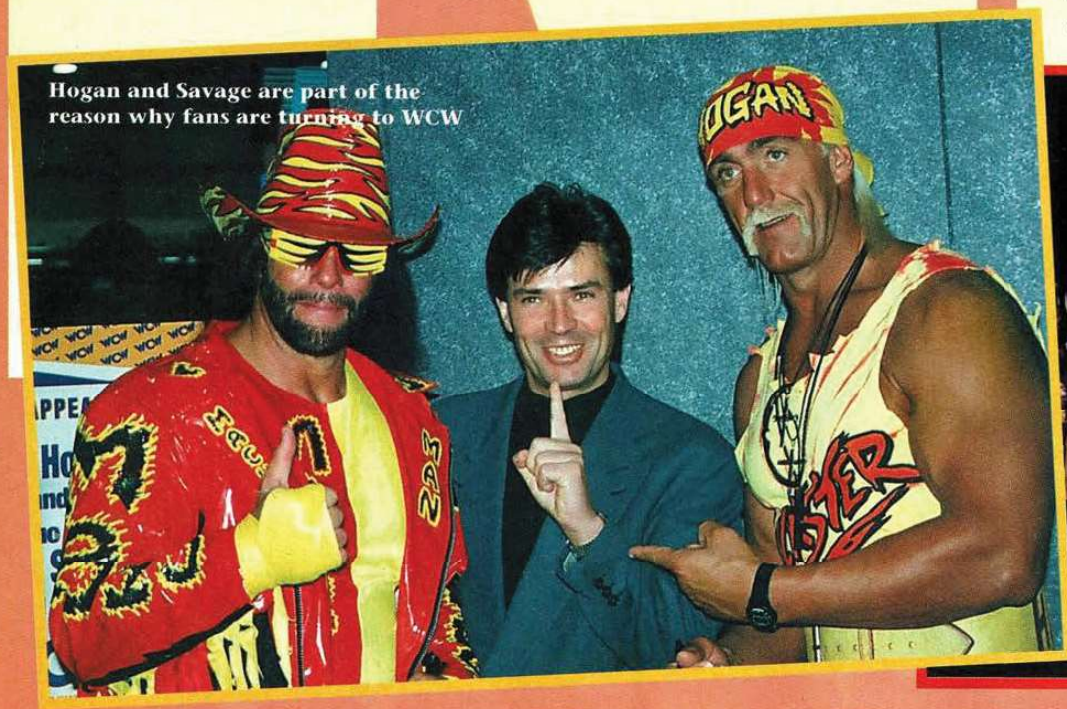
And Bischoff is now in the position Vince McMahon occupied in the 1980s: a marketing genius. As Senior Vice-President/Executive Producer for WCW, Bischoff has guided WCW to the fore-front of pro wrestling. WCW is, unquestionably, the No. 1 wrestling organization in North America — not the WWF. And the television ratings points are proof.

"We're coming into one of the most critical time periods in the television industry with momentum in our corner, and that's a big deal. We're happy about it, we're excited about it. In fact that's an understatement," Bischoff said in Las Vegas during WCW's Nitro/Clash of the Champions two-day extravaganza that coincided with the annual NATPE convention.

"A lot of people keep asking me how are we going to maintain our momentum. Well, my standard answer is, 'We're just going to keep doing what we've been doing because everything seems to be working. We're giving people exciting, compelling action on TV each and every week. Plus, we're giving them the very biggest names in the industry. I'm not really too worried about maintaining this level; I think it'll take care of itself as long as we maintain our commitment to the quality of the product."

WCW's television ratings have been impressive, to say the least. Consider:

- The January 15th Nitro from Miami (Hulk Hogan/Randy Savage vs. Ric Flair/Arn Anderson) drew a 3.5 rating and a 5.0 share. The midnight ET replay drew a 1.4, 4.0.
- The January 15th WWF Raw drew a 2.4 rating.
- Nitro has averaged a 2.5 rating.
- The January Clash of the Champions drew a 4.5 with a



Hogan and Savage are part of the reason why fans are turning to WCW

WCW events have the highest production values

6.6 share. During the main event (Hogan/Savage vs. Flair/The Giant), ratings soared to a 5.3 with a 7.5 share.

● Nitro on the TNT network airs live nationally at 9 p.m. ET, while the WWF's Raw has the advantage of always airing at prime time on the USA Network.

● Nitro is the fourth largest rating's earner for TNT, behind the NFL on TNT, TNT Original Movies and the NBA Playoffs.

● The January Clash ratings were the best since August, 1994.

"I am often asked, 'Was it a big gamble/risk to put Nitro on the air head-to-head with the WWF's Raw?'" Bischoff said. "And my answer always is, 'No, because we knew we had the biggest names in the industry, the ability to produce a show with higher production values (than Raw) and one that was more exciting and compelling. So, from that point of view, it was not that risky."

"Still, we are experiencing far greater success, faster than I anticipated we would. I thought it would take two years to get to the level we've reached in four months."

So, Eric, do you want to run Raw off the air?

"No, because I believe in competition," Bischoff said. "General Motors and Ford battle it out ... AT&T and MCI ... Dominos and Little Caesar's. The wrestling industry is big enough for everyone to be in business. But, my goal is, to dominate market share. The WWF has, for a long time, dominated market share, but I think it's been too long."

The WWF signed two former WCW competitors in recent months: Goldust and Vader. Here's Bischoff's take on both: "Vader couldn't make it here, at any level: competitively, emotionally or professionally. He just couldn't make it at WCW. I'm glad there's some place to go for guys who can't make it in WCW because he's got to feed his family."

"As for Goldust, well, that's a different story. I feel bad for Dustin Rhodes. He's a great guy, a good person. Although there's a fair amount of controversy surrounding his departure from WCW and yours truly, that never really impacted the fact that I liked and respected Dustin Rhodes as a person. But what he's doing now is very embarrassing, degrading — to him, his family and all of wrestling. The WWF always used to talk about family values, but I don't think that's the case anymore. As the parent of two kids (son Garrett and daughter Montanna), I know I wouldn't feel comfortable having my kids watch the WWF, where a guy dresses up in drag (clothes) and fondles himself at ringside."

As for his WWF counter-part, Bischoff said, "He's a guy with an ego as big as a building. He achieved a tremendous amount of success, but forgot that it's the people around him that helped him achieve that level. It's unfortunate that a man could miscalculate an industry so badly, make so many mistakes and so many bad moves in such a short period of time; in fact, it's sort of a surprise to me. Clearly, the only thing that he's got that anyone is talking about is the 'Billionaire Ted' skits. That speaks volumes about his television product, the quality of his talent and the general lack of confidence he has in his ability to create good, solid programming."

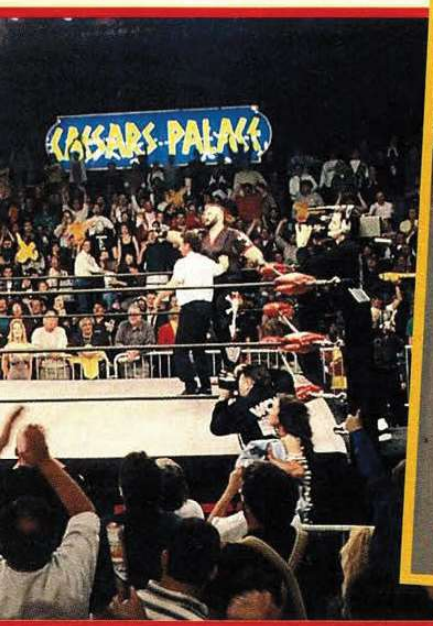
"I think Vince McMahon now has to see that WCW is No. 1; it's not just rhetoric at this point. I think the pressure we're putting on him is forcing him into a real reactionary mode; he obviously is not thinking clearly. And it's unfortunate. Vince McMahon has reached the desperation stage."

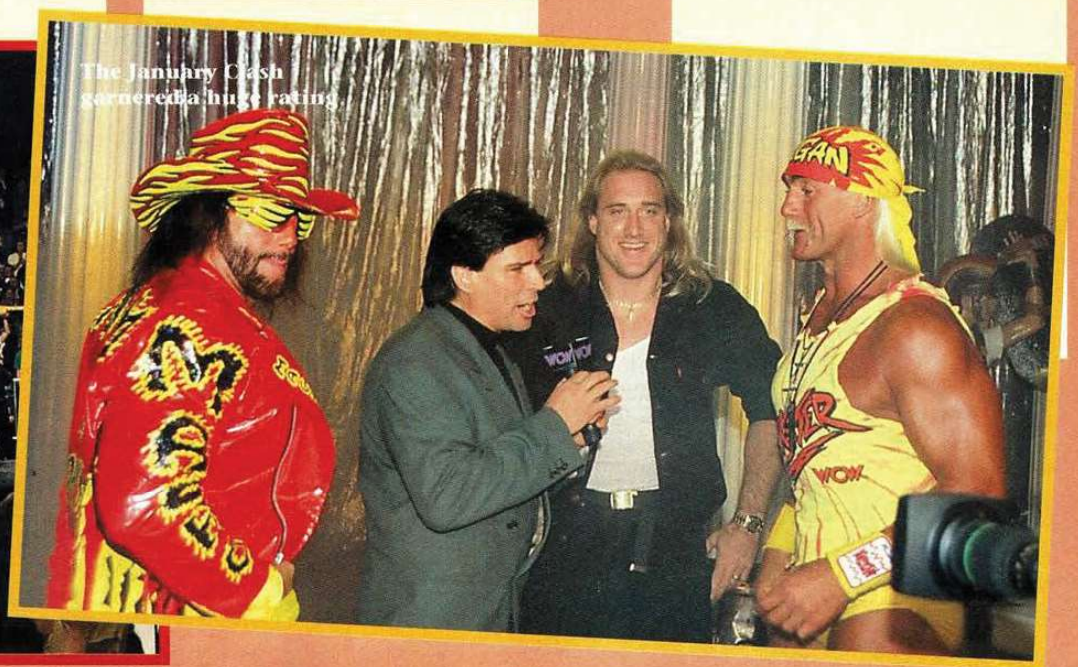
That's why, perhaps, McMahon has sunk to 'Billionaire Ted's Rasslin' Warroom,' featuring imitations of Hulk Hogan (known as the Hoaxster), Savage (the Nacho Man) and Mean Gene Okerlund ("Scheme" Gene).

"I don't know the desired impact of him making fun of people in the South, WCW, Hulk Hogan and/or Randy Savage ... I don't know what motivates him to do that, but, clearly, it's having a backlash effect on him. To that, I'm just sitting back with a big grin on my face."

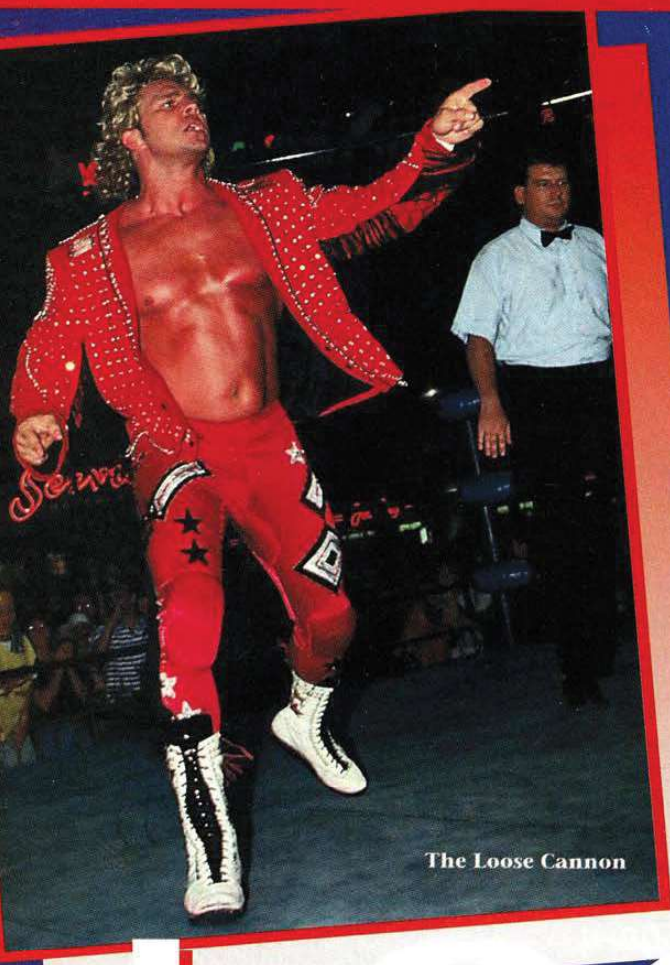
Is any retaliation planned by WCW?

"I'll tell you how we're going to retaliate," Bischoff said. "We will continue doing what we've been doing which is putting out the highest quality, most exciting television product possible. We will continue to bring the biggest, most exciting names in the industry to WCW and continue to introduce international talent to WCW."





The January Clash garnered a huge rating.



The Loose Cannon

When Fall Brawl '95 opened last September from the Asheville (N.C.) Civic Center, Flyin' Brian Pillman was a fan-favorite feuding with his friend Johnny B. Badd, with the winner earning a shot at then-WCW U.S. Champion Sting. It was a Match of the Year battle, filled with high-flying, risky moves from both combatants. In the end, Badd had his hand raised in victory.

Pillman has no respect for anyone

LOOSE C

As for Flyin' Brian Pillman, it was the last we saw of the popular star who once played for the Cincinnati Bengals. Later that evening Pillman sided with Arn Anderson in a cheap-shot attack on the master of cheap-shots, Ric Flair. The Brian Pillman transformation had begun.

Months later, Brian Pillman is now the most unpredictable, eccentric superstar in World Championship Wrestling. His antics are always unexpected and always unpredictable. He is a man who walks his own path despite sitting in the most elite fraternity on campus: the Four Horsemen. Yeah, Brian Pillman is the loose cannon of WCW, but it's a role he doesn't mind. In fact, he sort of cherishes it.

What's happened to Brian Pillman? WCW Magazine wanted to know, so, with trepidation, we approached the irrational superstar shortly before SuperBrawl VI. Pillman, surprisingly, agreed to answer our questions; however, it seems, he offered more questions than answers.

"I don't care what the fans think of me. I don't care what anyone thinks of me. I know where I'm going; I'm going to the top and no one is going to get in my way. I'm a Horseman. Deal with it," Pillman barked. "I'm going to fulfil my destiny: excellence. And everyone is going to respect that.

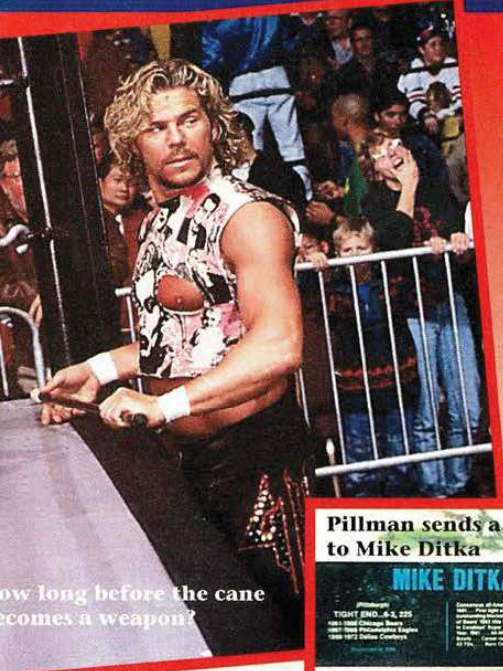
"That night in Asheville, back in my dressing room, I simply got fed up with being mediocre. I got sick and tired of being oppressed by left-wing, radical liberals. I got sick and tired of being censored, told what to do. That's what's happened. I'm not going to do it anymore. Instead, I'm going to tell the truth and do whatever I want ... because I'm a Horseman. Deal with it."

Pillman insists he has not flipped out, or, for that matter, been flipped on his head too many times.

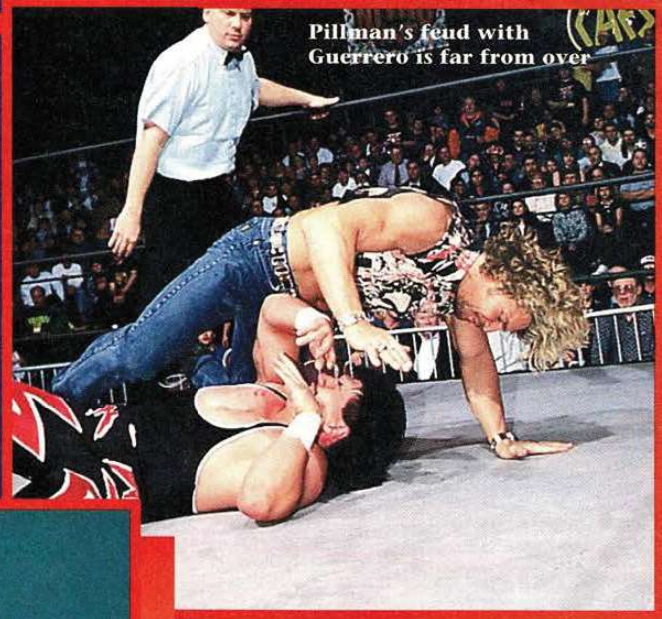
"I don't care one bit about what anyone has to say or think about me," he said, his voice audible to everyone within, oh, a mile range. "If the fans hate me, that's fine. If they like me, fine. They don't matter to me. I sleep quite well at night, regardless of what they think, say or do."

"My life has gotten oh-so-much better since Fall Brawl '95. In fact, each and every day it gets better. Why? Because it's a great day to be a Horseman. It's a great day knowing that I am going to walk out into this world of losers, this world of 9-to-5 working stiffs and know that I'm going to run rough-shod over them.

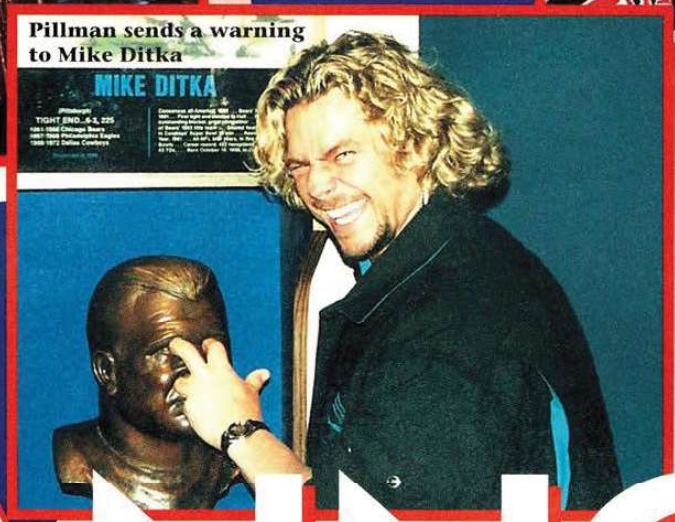
"I'm going to take whatever I want in life because no one has the intestinal fortitude to stop me, because I'm a Horseman. And that includes Kevin Sullivan, Eric



ow long before the cane
ecomes a weapon?



Pillman's feud with
Guerrero is far from over



Pillman sends a warning
to Mike Ditka

CANNON

Bischoff, Ted Turner and even Bill Clinton. There are just too many liberal, radical, demigods, telling the masses who are too stupid to know what's going on, what they want to hear. I don't tell any lies, I shoot from the hip; I tell the truth."

Pillman continued his diatribe for about 15 minutes until we interrupted to ask another question.

"I'll do whatever it takes to win; that's the creed of the Four Horsemen," he said, his eyes popping. "I'll cut someone's throat for 50-cents, I'll take a baseball bat to your mom if she's stopping me from going where I want to go. I'll do anything. It's my destiny to be a champion Horseman and the highlight of my career. This, in fact, has superseded the NFL and the Hollywood Blonds. Being a Horseman is like being on a whole 'nother realm, something no one else can really appreciate because they are nothing more than simple humans."

"Yes, we dominate the game of life."

But, are things, shall we say, kosher in the Four Horsemen kitchen? Pillman, it seems, stirs a bit too much trouble for the elite evil force. Case in point: Kevin Sullivan. Case in point, part two: "Mr. Wonderful" Paul Orndorff.

"Kevin Sullivan will be subjected to the reign of the Horsemen, whether he likes it or not. He will become a Horseman disciple, trust me," Pillman snapped. "Gold, women, money, beating people up ... that's what the Four Horsemen are all about."

Pillman, who threatened to stop this interview on four separate occasions, added:

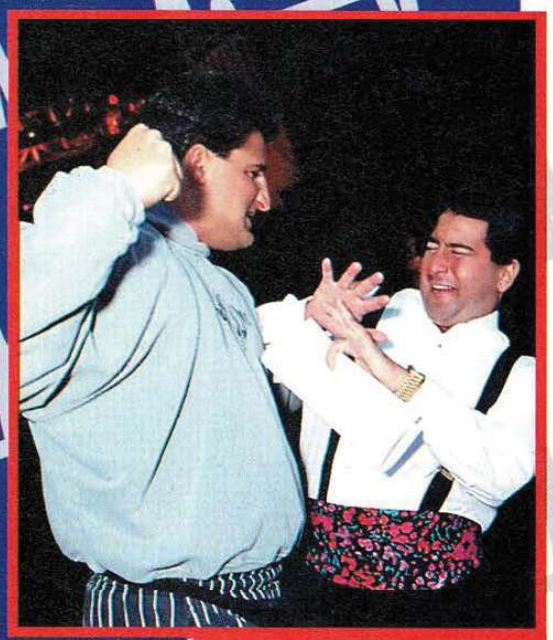
"Remember when Arn Anderson slapped my face on Monday Nitro a while ago, well, I kind of like pain; that didn't bother me one bit. It was a lot more violent than most of the opponents I have been in the ring with of late," Pillman said. Likewise when Sullivan was whipping me with the belt, I loved it. After all where do the barriers of pain and pleasure begin and end. "With Double-A, Arn Anderson, his word is his bond. He's the type of man who will go down in a hail of bullets because he believes in the cause. That's why getting slapped by Double-A was actually an honor. Being whipped by Sullivan wasn't but it brought the Horsemen closer together and we will ultimately spell the end for him and his bunch of freakos."

So where is Brian Pillman headed? No one really knows, or at least no one can say for certain. He's irrational and unorthodox which could, believe it or not, land him in title contention ... or maybe in an insane asylum.

In the USA or Canada, write to:
Brain Reaction,
WCW Magazine,
One CNN Center,
Box No.105366, Atlanta,
GA30348-5366

In the UK or Ireland, write to:
Brain Reaction,
WCW Magazine,
Cell Publishing Ltd.,
28\30 Osnaburgh Street,
London NW1 3ND

Spivey has as little taste in magazines as he does in hairstyles



Disco thumps Dorky Dave

BRAIN REACTION

I, Bobby "The Brain" Heenan, a broadcast-journalist par excellence, must offer an apology — not that I want to, or feel I need to, but rather, the suit-and-tie clowns in WCW front-office insist upon it. As you might remember, during the January Clash of the Champions from Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nev., I slipped, lost my cool and said something on the air that I should not have. So, for that, and only that, I say, 'Sorry humanoids.' But, I want it noted, my lawyers — and their names, for your information, are Johnny and Marcia — have examined Brian Pillman's assault on yours truly. And, yes, they do plan full legal action. Let me add a little more about this nutball Brian, the kid is so "coo-coo" that he once applied for admission to the Dungeon of Doom, but was rejected. He's such a whacko that Bellevue won't even accept him. If WCW thinks they can control this space cadet, good luck. I, instead, am going to do things with Brian the old-fashioned way: sue him for every last penny he's got.

That's enough about Brian, now on to other Pulitzer prose from the WCW Magazine's No. 1-rated columnist, "The Brain."

I must also apologize to Gary Bechtel of Diamond Ridge Motor Sports. I'm sorry that the idiots who write and produce this magazine did not spell your name properly in the last issue. Now you know how I feel every month. It's not easy being the one professional among a bunch of amateurs.

I always thought newspapers did things to increase sales ... maybe not. On Super Sunday, the Chicago Sun-Times ran a photo of Pittsburgh Steeler LOSER Kevin Greene along with losers Hulk Hogan and "Macho Man" Randy Savage. Too bad I wasn't featured, then sales would have gone through the roof.

I'm not yet sure what it means, but, the Giant has been seen talking — numerous times — with Diamond Dallas Page. Trust me, something is happening here and I will keep you updated.

Gary Spivey told me he actually enjoys reading this rag. But where's the recomendation there? Spivey should get his head out of the comics and try and concentrate more on the matters at hand. After all when he was advising Paul Orndorff, where did he tell him he would be stomped on by the Four Horsemen?

Can anyone explain to me the reason Eric the Idiot (oops, I wasn't suppose to say that) did interviews with Da Coach, Mike Ditka and washed-up actor Jim Belushi about Steve "Mongo" McNuggets? Well, I did my own little research on McNuggets, that former fourth-string punter for the Chicago Bears, and you humanoids will finally hear the truth. In early-February, I took the charter jet from Beverly Hills to Chicago, that miserable city along Lake Michigan. I immediately went downtown to Sports Fever!, a sporting goods/trading card shop in Water Tower, which supposedly is the most famous shopping area in this crime-ridden city. I asked the store owner, Chuck Blatt, who the most famous Chicago Bear of all is, and he responded Hall of Famer Walter Payton. I then asked who the second most-famous Bear of all-time is, and he responded Hall of Famer Gale Sayers. I kept asking — third most-famous, fourth most-famous, etc. — and it wasn't until 218th that McNuggets' name came up. Hah — I told you. And for further proof of McNuggets' bench-riding career, check this out, I bought one of his Topps trading cards for six-cents. Hah! Six cents. Case closed: McNuggets was a bad football player — and is a worse broadcaster.

Every time I see "Das Wunderkind" Alex Wright smile, I want to slap his ugly face. But, I refrain ... I don't want to have to pick up the sauerkraut.

Can you believe all of the blood these days? George Clooney should be at ringside from now on.

I received a phone call in mid-February from J.J. Dillon, a name from the past for you Horseman aficionados. It was a former manager-to-former manager conversation, but I won't spill the beans about our conversation ... unless the price is right.

Mark Madden, heard each and every Wednesday and Friday on the WCW Hotline (1-900-909-9900), keeps bragging that he has more "scoops" than anyone else ... and he's right. He has a scoop of vanilla, a scoop of strawberry, a scoop of chocolate, a scoop of rocky road, a scoop of cookie dough, a scoop of mint chocolate chip, a scoop of butter pecan AND a scoop of spumoni. And that's just on Wednesdays.

Did you hear that "Revenge of the Nerds, Part V," is now being filmed ... and Dave Penzer won the lead.

The Nasty Boys + Public Enemy = 4 empty skulls.

Casey Kasem, I am told, has been hounding Disco Inferno to appear on his weekly radio countdown. And why not ... D.I., as I like to call him, is the hottest musician since some porker hit the scene from Memphis.

The lovely Miss Elizabeth, and I use that term lovely quite loosely, has been out of the wrestling world for several years. But, evidently she didn't loose — or grow out of — her gaudy dresses. Then again, it might just be a new Blue Light special; after all, she has been working at K-Mart.

It's 1996, which is good news for "Macho Man" Randy Savage ... his daddy, "Ancient" Angelo celebrates his 100th birthday.

Can you believe the audacity of that Irish madman Fit Finlay, who attacked his Lordship, Steven Regal, on the final WCW Saturday Night in January? Lord Regal is one of the few WCW competitors with class AND dignity. I'm honored to say I know His Lordship and can't wait for the day he pummels Finlay. (Gee, I wonder if Stevie Baby will now let me have Jeeves; I certainly could use a new butler.)

Craig Pittman made the dumbest mistake of his life by asking "Eight-ball" Long to be his manager. In fact, I'm told the Marine Corp., is so upset with Pittman that they're stripping his rank — and sending him back to basic training.

Baseball season is rapidly approaching, so I'd like to take a moment to say "Hello" to my dear, close, personal, longtime pal George; that's Mr. Steinbrenner, to you humanoids.

There was a huge scandal following the WCW superstars' visit to Steve Grissom and the folks at Diamond Ridge Motor Sports. After all the wrestlers had left it was discovered that all the hub caps had been stolen from the cars. Now as nobody has come forward to admit to this crime, I feel I must say my piece as a law abiding citizen. On this page is a picture of the culprit. As soon as I picked up last months magazine and saw it there I knew who was to blame. Huh, I guess old habits die hard, Eddie!

Several of you humanoids have been asking me about Marco, who you see at WCW events throwing WCW "goodies" from the ring into the crowd. Well, I've learned a little about Marco Canales, this Greg Maddux wanna-be. Marco was a Little League All-Star this past summer. Too bad he's 27.

Dave Penzer, our puppet of a ring announcer, got the butt-kicking of his life in Las Vegas. Yep, Disco Inferno spotted "Dorky" Dave sneaking into Disco's locker room, then trying to steal one of his hip outfits. Way to go, Disco, chalk up another victory!

OK, let's look at the crayon-written letters now ...

Dear Bobby Heenan,

Could you tell me how much Sonny Onoo pays you to cheer for the Japanese? I know you have more than one deal with him.

Scott Biggar, Riverview, MI

"Sorry, Scott, my financial dealings with Onoo-sahn are strictly confidential ... unless you can top his $250,000.

Dear Mr. Heenan,

I am a journalism student who would like to get started working for a wrestling magazine. As you are the greatest journalist around, I have decided there is no one's advice I would rather follow. One final thing, get rid of Steve McMichael and Tony Schiavone; they are both inferior to you.

Alison Lotocki, Jackson Hts, NY

"That's simple, stupid. All you need to do is grease the right palms, but not with that 10W-40 that you or your boyfriend Bret use in your hair."

Dear Weasel,

My name is not Alphabet Soup, as you called me a couple of issues ago. I think Weasel is too good a name for you. I think we should just call you IT. Still, I wonder if you would like to manage me and have me head a new Heenan Family, along with Dean Malenko, Craig Pittman and DDP as my cohorts?

Lenny Golembiewski, Forty Fort, PA

"Hey Chicken Noodle, I'm only going to say this once, so listen up ... get a life, and don't include me in it!"

Dear Brain,

I think your managerial skills are being wasted. There is nobody in this sport who has your ability. Col. Robert Parker is a travesty. Sherri is a bimbo and Jimmy Hart is a runt. You should join the Four Horseman and make them rule the globe.

David Smith, Blackpool, England

"Although it's tempting, I think I'd rather be a third-base coach."

Dear Brain,

I would like to be a matchmaker and promoter for WCW. My first card would be headlined by a handicap steel cage match featuring Taskmaster, Zodiac, The Giant, Hugh Morrus, Yeti, Shark, One Man Gang, Meng and Lex Luger — all against Hulk Hogan. What do you think?

Tim Kraemer, Bloomington, MN

"Sounds good to me ... I'll call the funeral home."

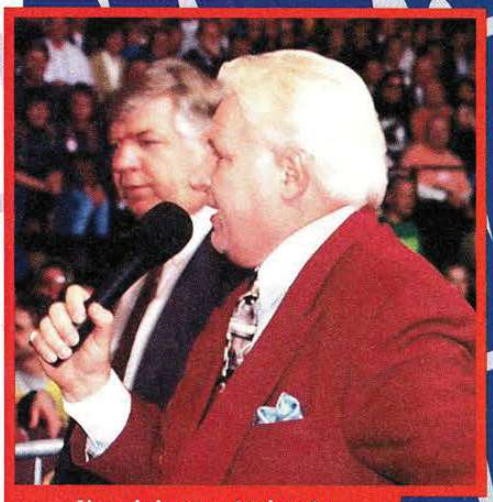
Dear Brain (less),

If you are such a professional, why are you not working with Diane Sawyer and Barbara Walters? Someone as "good" as you could make it anywhere, or could you?

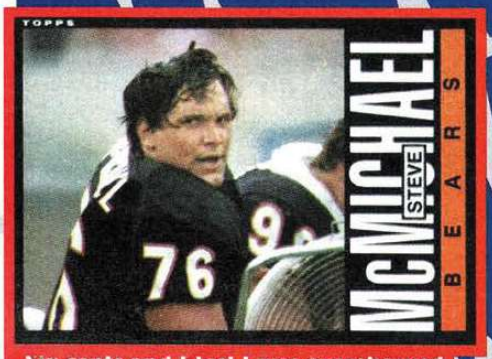
Karen Hicks, Tellville, WI

"I wouldn't let either one of those two-bit floozies interrupt my journalism career. That's all you chicks, like Connie Chung, want to do ... do a man's job. Stick to the dishes!

That's it, I'm outta here!
The Brain



I'm giving up trying to educate the humanoids



Six-cents and I feel I was overcharged

The hub cap collector

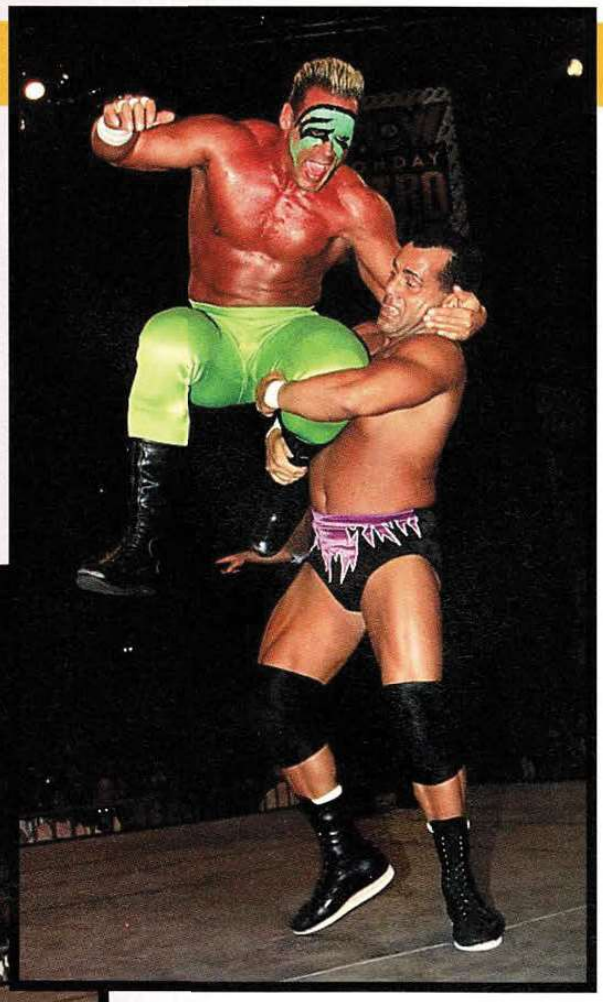
Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the co-host of the WCW Main Event and WCW Saturday Night programs on Superstation TBS. He also serves as color commentator on WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.

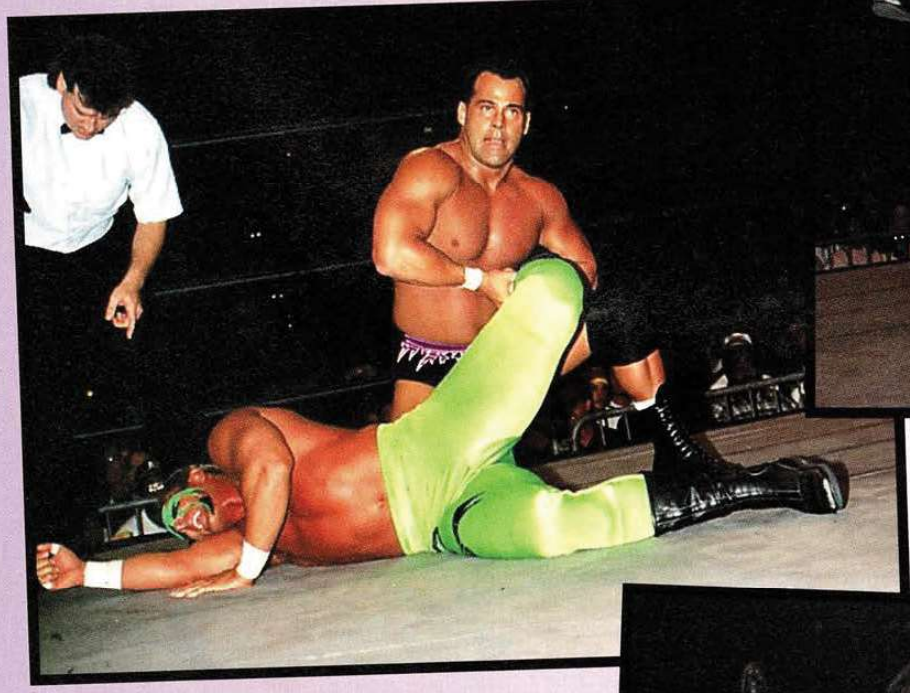
Editor's Note: The opinions expressed throughout this column are those of Bobby "The Brain" Heenan. The publishers of WCW magazine take no responsibility for the comments and apologize for any offense given.

EXPERT DEAN

ASSESSMENT

In this exclusive WCW Magazine feature, four of World Championship Wrestling's most knowledgeable personalities take an up-close-and-personal look at current WCW Superstars.
These aren't comments you'll hear at the arenas or on TV-these are the true beliefs of the biggest and most provocative mindsets in the sport today!





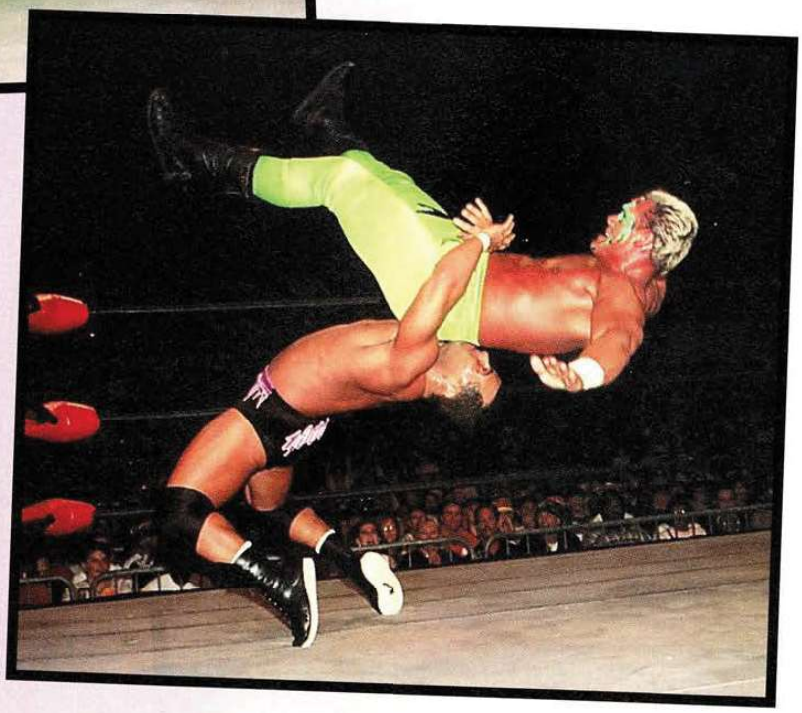
RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

Height: 5' 9"

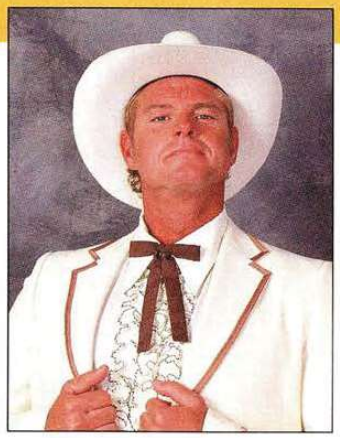
Weight: 216lbs

Hometown: Tampa, FL

Signature Maneuver:
"Master of a 1000 holds"



MALENKO



"Listen, fellow, you must realize that the Colonel is a one-track man. What does that mean? I am a genius as a promoter, but that means paying strict attention to the market in which I am plying my trade. In other words, since I've been in WCW, my scouting and investigative word remains in this organization only. I had heard

Colonel Robert Parker

about Mr. Malenko for a long time, about his exploits in Europe and Japan, about his being the master of 1,000 holds. I'll tell you, those experts out there were as right as rain. This man is a classic professional wrestler, one that very few WCW stars can hold their own with. Is he material worthy of Col. Parker? Why most assuredly, but let's let time and experience prove just how far Malenko goes around here. Remember, this is where the big boys play, sonny!"

Col. Robert Parker is the self-proclaimed greatest showman in the world. He has several top WCW wrestlers under his guidance.

"Whooo, baby, this dude got some moves! He's got counters to moves that I didn't even know were moves — I ain't kiddin'! Most people in WCW are talking about all the wrestling knowledge that Malenko got, and that's pretty obvious. I think what makes the difference with this guy is that he's so quick. He's got footspeed aplenty, and that means he can

Dusty Rhodes

match up with the Eddie Guerreros and the Brian Pillmans. He's got power, which means he can take on guys like Kevin Sullivan and Scott Norton. And he's got brains ... do you hear me, Ric Flair, Arn Anderson, Hogan, Sting, all the rest. There ain't nothin' Malenko can't seem to do. Give him some time and he'll be wearin' some gold."

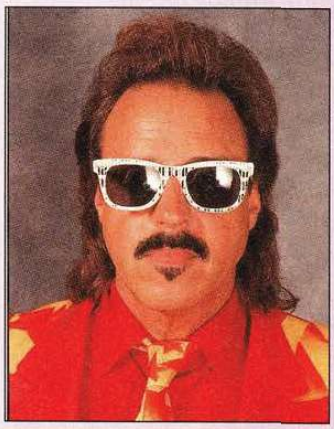
Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream," is one of the most popular wrestlers of all time. During his incredible career he has managed to win the NWA World Heavyweight Championship on three different occasions.

"All right, for some of you dolts out there that refer to yourselves as wrestling experts, here are some questions: Did you know that Dean Malenko is a second-generation WCW superstar? Did you know that his father was The Great Boris Malenko, who was among the most feared men in this sport from the '50s through the '70s and a guy who became a legendary

Larry Zbyszko

trainer? I saw The Great Malenko many times, and I never saw a guy with so many ring smarts. He could beat guys who were better athletically just by driving them crazy with psychology. Dean isn't as purely mean as his dad was, but he's just as shrewd. The thing I like about him is that you can never, EVER tell what he's thinking. He wears the same 'game face' whether he's up, down, in pain, or making the pinfall. A genius who just can't be rattled."

"Living Legend" Larry Zbyszko is regarded as one of the greatest wrestlers in history. He is currently the co-host of WCW Pro on TBS Superstation.



"This Malenko is a tough guy, but I've got bigger fish to fry right now, baby. You see, I've become the biggest confidante of Ric Flair, the Giant, Kevin Sullivan, everybody who's anybody in WCW. Malenko could certainly be somebody someday. When I see him compete, I see a consummate athlete, a great competitor. Could he someday

Jimmy Hart

become a member of the Four Horsemen? Certainly? Welcomed into the Dungeon of Doom? Very possibly. It's just that Malenko has made no offers to meet any one of us. He seems to be quite the loner, and that's fine. He doesn't get in our way and we don't get in his. Malenko, let me give you a warning, though: Don't ruffle either the Horsemen or the DOD or there's gonna be hell to pay. I don't care how good you are, you'll go down if you get in our way!"

Jimmy Hart is arguably the greatest manager in the history of the sport. Currently he is associated with The Dungeon of Doom and Lex Luger.

THE Regal DECREE

If ever there was a chance for me to prove to you that there is a conspiracy against me here in WCW the picture on this page proves it. This month's magazine has a different cover for the UK than that in the USA. Why, I hear you ask? Well Nitro is being launched on April 5 in Britain on TNT. Who has been chosen to publicize this fact? Lord Steven and Earl Robert, Britain's finest? No. That would be too logical. No, WCW in their infinite wisdom handed a Union Jack, the beloved flag of my nation, to Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage, two 'wrestlers' who couldn't point out Britain on a map of the United Kingdom. Still look on the bright side. At last the UK can witness wrestling at its finest and can be spared that awful cartoon nonsense on Sky.

The age of chivalry belongs in the past. I reject the view that Britain and the Commonwealth should be relegated to a minor role in the world. Now that the three Blue Bloods — your Lordship, the Good Earl, Robert Eaton, and Squire David Taylor — are united, we are going to take the British way of life and conquer the world.

No doubt what I just said was far too advanced for you Americans, where a third-grade education is considered exemplary. So, I shall stick to the matters at hand in WCW.

Great quarrels arise from small occasions, but rarely from small causes. With that said, I must touch on a major event that recently happened here in WCW: the arrival of a Mr. David "The Belfast Bruiser" Finlay, a man who I have fought and battled for the past 12 years. This man seems to find it personally offensive that I am English, with he being of Northern Irish descent. The unrest between our two countries has, as they say, calmed. However, Mr. Finlay feels he still needs to prove something by trying to beat me up. Well, we shall see where this goes. I am always willing to learn, although I don't like being taught. I am always willing to fight for a cause, but, now, I think Mr. Finlay needs to realize that the times have changed and bloodshed between our two countries no longer needs to go on. We have battled each other in over 20 countries and now I think it's time we call a truce, so we can both get on to better things.

On March 17th, most of you silly Americans dress in green to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, and I must say that sends shivers down my spine knowing that Finlay is in America. As long as he's here, violence is only a moment away. I personally am not too sure why you Americans honor an Irish chap. People in Chicago, one of America's great crime capitals, go so far as to dye the Chicago River green on that day; perhaps you remember seeing scenes of that nonsense in the 1980s movie Ferris Beuller's Day Off. Where I'm from, the Irish are the people who dig the roads that I drive my Bentley on. And in their own country, the Irish do nothing more than pick potatoes.

Teddy Long, an ignoramus at best, keeps adding new wrestlers to his managerial stable. How ridiculous. Mr. Long couldn't manage to get drunk in a brewery. His latest protege, joining "Jumping" Joey Maggs, is Sgt. Craig Pittman, a man who, just a few short months ago, was calling all of you people a bunch of maggots. My how things can change as now you're all charming and wonderful people.

Squire David Taylor recently lent some change — to be exact, 100,000 pounds — to that dreadful Fergie woman. I told him to forget about her because you have a better chance of getting blood out of a stone than money back from her. I personally wish Fergie would crawl back under the rock she came from. She has been borrowing money from my friends all around the world, yet never pays it back. She must, I think, be part-American. As I've said in the past about Princess Diana, may the skies fall upon those miserable mares.

This pair couldn't find Britain on a map of the UK

That obnoxious Mark Madden, who is nothing more than a toe-rag, claims each Wednesday and Friday on the WCW Hotline (1-900-909-9900) that he has ALL of the scoops, but he doesn't. I, in fact, know something he doesn't. You see, Mean Gene Okerlund is recovering comfortably from surgery to remove all of his toes. The reason he had this done was, so he can stand an inch closer to the bar. Back to Madden for a moment. Mr. Madden is, perhaps, the richest man in America, but only because he never spends more than $10 a year on clothes. He must raid mortuaries for some of the suits he wears.

The great Winston Churchill once said, 'Dogs look up to you, cats look down on you; give me a pig because they just treat you as an equal.' Please, would someone tell that to Hunter Hearst Helmsley.

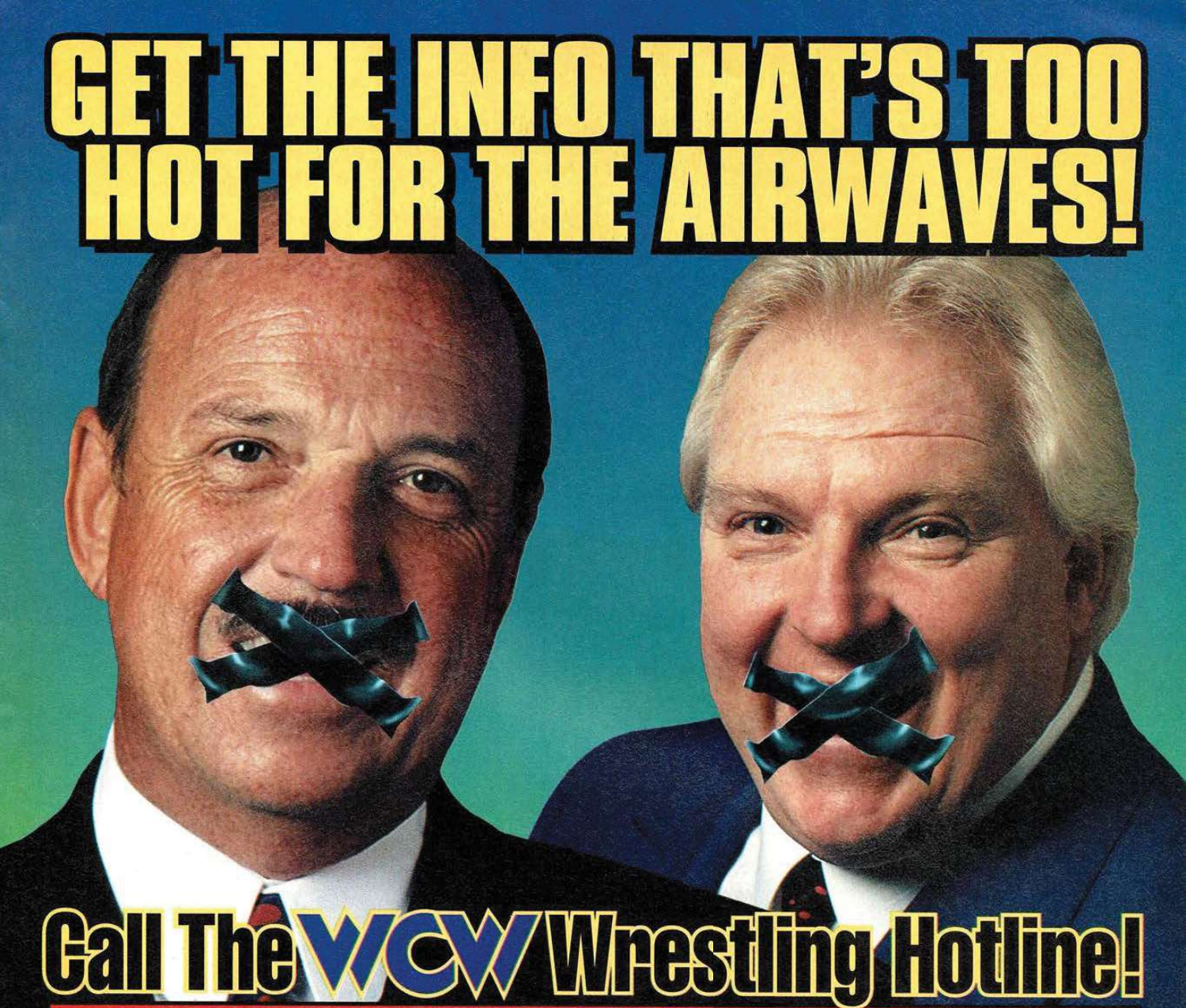
Let me say this once again, hopefully for the last time ... if you were born in America, you are American. Just accept it, no matter how embarrassing it may be.

America's favorite pastime, baseball, begins in earnest shortly. And that's good news for all of the 7-11 stores in this miserable country, because sales of chewing tobacco will increase. What a disgusting habit, performed by disgusting creatures. In England, the only game similar to baseball is called rounders, which is played by little girls in junior school. Personally, I find it dreadfully offensive that the adult population of America allows their children to watch baseball, particularly because — and this is shocking — the American children actually look up to these peasants as role-models.

Finally, as you might know, I was wrestling for months with a severely injured right knee, and I needed to wear a large brace during my matches. I thought it was time to have the knee examined, so I went to the "so-called" No. 1-rated American orthopedist, Dr. Edward Steven. This buffoon actually had the gall to suggest I have the surgery done here in America. Nonsense, I told him. Not a chance in hell. Instead, I saw Dr. Winston Marriott at St. John's Hospital in London, the finest knee surgeon in the world, who performed the procedure, and I feel better than ever.

Good Morrow Peasants!

GET THE INFO THAT'S TOO HOT FOR THE AIRWAVES!



Call The WCW Wrestling Hotline!

1-900-909-9900

Children under 18 must obtain parental permission before calling. Cost is $1.49 per minute.

Call 24 hours a day - 7 days a week. Call from any kind of phone, digital or rotary.

1 DAILY UPDATE

Sun-Bobby "The Brain" Heenan
Mon-Mike Tenay
Tues-Terry Taylor
Wed-Mark Madden
Thurs-"Wrestling Insiders" with Mike Tenay
Fri-Mark Madden
Sat-"Mean"Gene Okerlund

2 BACKSTAGE PASS

Go backstage and get the behind the scenes action and information from WCW's awesome special events!

3 PIN THE CHAMP

Have you got what it takes to go head to head with some of WCW's finest? Here's your chance to find out!

4 VOTE LINE

Voice your opinion! Vote on current hot World Championship Wrestling topics.

5 WCW TRIVIA CHALLENGE

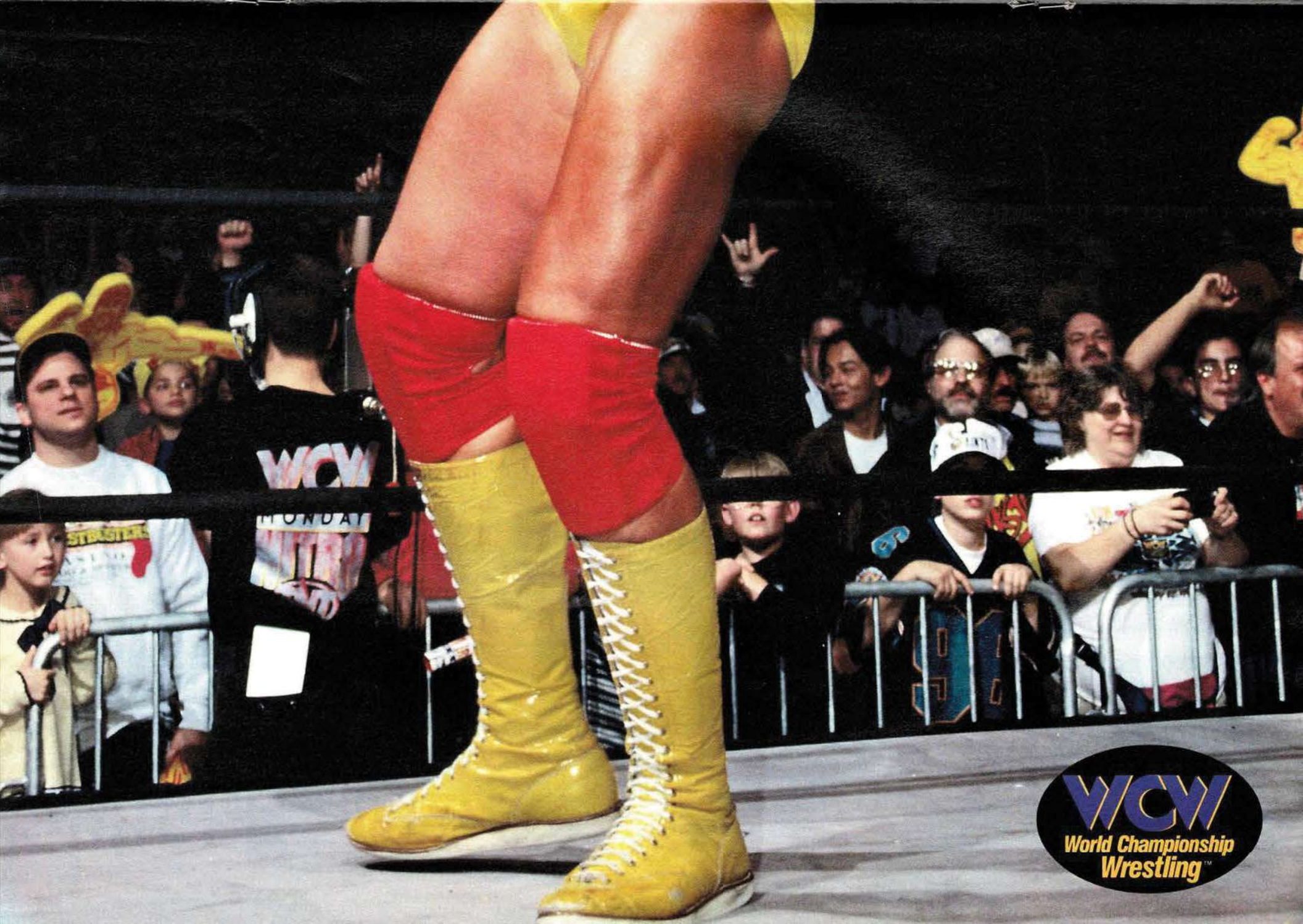
Test your knowledge of World Championship Wrestling and win great prizes!

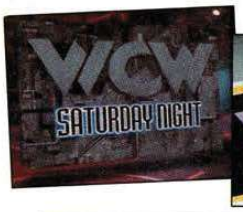
Archive.org

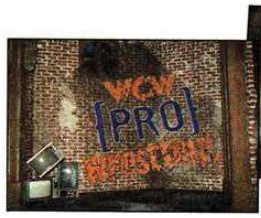
CANADIAN FANS CALL 1-900-451-5344, Call Costs $1.99 per minute.

Daily programming subject to change and availability. World Championship Wrestling, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366

HULKSTER


WCW
WCW
World Championship
Wrestling™



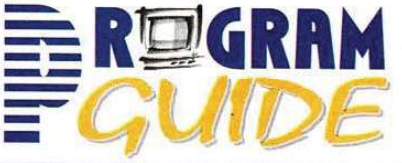


WCW ON YOUR LOCAL STATIONS (Check your area listings for times and availability)

USA

WCW SATURDAY NIGHT
SEATTLE KTZZ.

WCW WORLDWIDE
ALBUQUERQUE KASA, AMARILLO KFDA, ANCHORAGE KYES, ASHLAND/ MANSFIELD WBP, AUGUSTA WFXG, BALTIMORE WBFF, BILOXI/GULFPORT WLOX, BIRMINGHAM WTTO, BLUEFIELD WVVA, BOSTON WSBK, BOWLING GREEN WGRB, BRANSON KO5JQ, BURLINGTON/ PLATTSBURG WWIN, CHARLESTON WTAT, CHARLESTON/HUNTING WVAH, CHARLOTTE WFVT, CHARLOTTE WHKY, CHATTANOOGA WDSI, CHICAGO WCIU, CLEVELAND/CANTON WOAC, COLORADO SPRINGS KOAA, COLUMBIA WOLO, COLUMBUS WRBL, COLUMBUS WWHO, COLUMBUS/ TUPELO WTVA, DALLAS/FT WORTH KDFI, DAYTON WRGT, DETROIT WDIV, DOTHAN WTVY, EL PASO KJLF, ERIE WJET, FLORENCE WBTW, FORT WAYNE WFFT, FRESNO/VISALIA KAIL, GREENWOOD/GREENVILLE WXVT, GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG WSPA, HARLINGEN KGBT, HARRISBURG/ LANCASTER WLYH, HOUSTON KRIV, HUNTSVILLE WYLE, INDIANAPOLIS WTTV, JACKSON WJTV, JACKSON WMTU, JACKSONVILLE WNFT, JOHNSTOWN/ALTOONA WWCP, KANSAS CITY KSMO, KNOXVILLE WKXT, LAKE CHARLES KVHP, LAS VEGAS KUPN, LITTLE ROCK/PINE BLFF KASN, LOS ANGELES KNBC,LOUISVILLE WFTE, LUBBOCK KJTV, MACON WMGT, MASON CITY KIMT, MEMPHIS WHBQ, MEMPHIS WLMT, MIAMI/ FT LAUDERDALE WBFS, MILWAUKEE WDJT, MINNEAPOLIS KMSP, MOBILE PENSACOLA WEAR, MONROE/EL DORADO KNOE, MONTGOMERY WCOV, NASHVILLE WXMT, NASHVILLE/HOPKINSVILLE WKAG, NEW ORLEANS WUPL, NEW YORK WCBS, NORFOLK WTVZ, OKLAHOMA CITY KOCB, ORLANDO WRBW, PHILADELPHIA WGBS, PHOENIX KTVK, PITTSBURGH WPTT, PORTLAND KEBN, PROVIDENCE WPRI, RALEIGH/DURHAM WKFT, SAN ANTONIO KABB, SANTA BARARA KSTB, SALISBURY WBOC, SAVANNAH WJCL, SYRACUSE WSYT, SHREVEPORT KTBS, ST LOUIS KDNL, TALLAHASSEE WCTV,



Keep up-to-date with all the latest WCW developments as our power-packed programs bring all the arena action right into your living room!

WCW ON TNT
WCW MONDAY NITRO LIVE
MONDAY 9:00PM EST
REPLAYS AT MIDNIGHT EST

WCW ON SUPERSTATION TBS
WCW PRO WRESTLING
SATURDAY 9:05AM EST
WCW SATURDAY NIGHT
SATURDAY 6:05PM EST
WCW MAIN EVENT
SUNDAY 6:05PM EST

WCW ON SPORTSOUTH
WCW PRO WRESTLING
WEDNESDAY 12:30AM EST

WCW ON PRIME
MONDAY 5:00PM EST
Check with regional sports network in your area for specific dates & times

TAMPA WTVT, TRI CITIES WKPT, UTICA WUPN, WACO/TEMPLE KCEN, WASHINGTON WDCA, W-B/SCRANTON PCTN, WEST PALM BEACH WTVX, WICHITA KWCH.

WCW PRO WRESTLING
ALBANY WSST, ALEXANDRIA KLAX, ATLANTA/LA GRANGE WGBN, BRANSON K05JQ, BUFFALO W58AV, BURLINGTON/PLATTSBURG WWIN, CHARLESTON WCIV, CHARLOTTE WFVT, CHARLOTTE/HICKORY WHKY, CHICAGO WCIU, CINCINATTI WBQC, CLEVELAND/AKRON WAKC, COLUMBUS WWHO, COLUMBUS WSWS, COLUMBUS TUPELO WCBI, DALLAS KDFI, EL PASO KJLF,

EUGENE/ROSEBURG KROZ, FAYETTEVILLE WFAY, FLORENCE/MYRTLE BEACH WGSE, FT MYERS WSWF, FT WAYNE WFFT, GREENVILLE WFBC, HARLINGEN–SPANISH CLEARANCE KGBT, HATTIESBURG/LAUREL WHLT, HUNTSVILLE/DEC/FLO WYLE, INDIANAPOLIS WAV, JACKSONVILLE WNFT, KINGMAN KMOH, LOUISVILLE WBNA, MANCHESTER WMCH, MIAMI/FT LAUDERDALE WSVN, MILWAUKEE WVTV, MINNEAPOLIS KLGT, NASHVILLE WKZX, NASHVILLE WNAB, NASHVILLE/HOPKINSVILLE WKAG, NORFOLK/PORTSMOUTH WPEN, ORLANDO WRBW, PHOENIX KSAZ , PHOENIX KUSK, PORTLAND KEBN, RALEIGH/DURHAM WRDC, ROANOKE/ LYNCHBURG WSLS, SANTA BARBARA KSTB, SAVANNAH WTOC, SEATTLE/TACOMA KTZZ, SPOKANE KDQ, ST GEORGE KSGI, TAMPA/ST PETE/SAR WBSV, TAMPA WTTA, TOLEDO WWAP, WEST PALM BEACH WAQ.

WCW MAIN EVENT
ORLANDO WRBW.

CANADA

WCW WORLDWIDE
HALIFAX CJCH, LONDON CFPL, NORTH BAY CKNY, OTTAWA CJOH, PRINCE ALBERT CIPA, REGINA CKCK, SASKATOON CFQC, SAULT STE. MARIE CHBX, ST JOHN/MONCTON CKCW, SUDBURY CICI, SYDNEY/GL BAY CJCB, TIMMINS CITO, TORONTO CFTO, WHEATLEY CHWI, WINGHAM CKNX, WINNEPEG CKY, YORKTON CICC.

WCW MAIN EVENT
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE CHMI.

UK

(Check local listings as times vary. All times GMT)

NITRO
TNT FRIDAY 7pm

WCW WORLDWIDE
CENTRAL ITV SATURDAY PM.

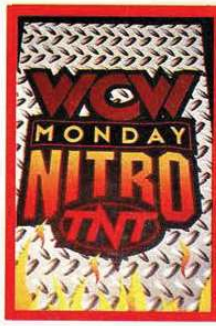
ON THE ASTRA SATELLITE CHANNEL DSF (GERMAN COMMENTARY)
MONDAY 10pm MONDAY NITRO
TUESDAY 10pm WCW PRO WRESTLING
WEDNESDAY 10pm WCW WORLDWIDE
THURSDAY 10pm WCW SATURDAY NIGHT
FRIDAY 10pm FINAL ATTACK

LIVE EVENT CALENDAR

Check out our calendar to find out when WCW will be coming to your area. Cities, arenas and dates are subject to change, so please check before you make your plans.

MARCH

24 Uncensored PPV, Tupelo, MS
25 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Birmingham AL,
27 TV Taping, Center Stage, Atlanta, GA



UK FANS COUNTDOWN TO NITRO
First show debuts on TNT April 5th 1996... Don't miss it!

INSANE?

YOU MUST BE IF YOU DON'T SUBSCRIBE TO WCW MAGAZINE

...a subscription to WCW Magazine guarantees your copy will be delivered to your door before it goes on sale on the newsstands. Now you can also complete your collection of WCW Magazines by ordering from our limited supply of back issues. So don't miss out, fill in all the details below relevant to your country.

Issue 1

Issue 2

Issue 3

Issue 4

Issue 5

Issue 6

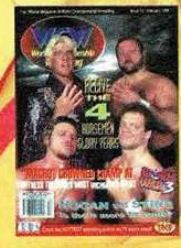
Issue 7

Issue 8

Issue 9

Issue 10

Issue 11



Issue 12

I want a 12 month subscription to WCW Magazine at a cost of $38.00 in the USA & Canada, £24.00 in the UK & Ireland
Start subscription with issue .....

Method of payment
(Checks payable to Cell Publishing Ltd.)
Check or money order $38.00 ☐
Check or money order £24.00 ☐
MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ £24.00 Sterling
Credit card transactions will be debited in UK funds

Card no.: .....

Expiry date : .....

Name on card : .....

Signature : .....

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

City .....

State / County .....

Zip / Post code .....

European subscriptions £40.00
International £48.00 UK funds only

Please allow 8 weeks to receive first issue

I would also like the following back issues at
$5.00 USA / Canada £3.00 UK / Ireland per copy

1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐
7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12 ☐

and I enclose a payment of $ / £ .....

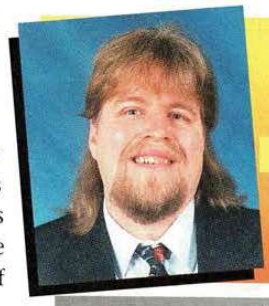
Please send form and payment to:

In the USA & Canada
WCW Magazine c/o Toni Hopkins One CNN Center
Box no. 105366 Atlanta GA 30348 - 5366

In the UK & Ireland
WCW Magazine Cell Publishing Ltd.
28/30 Osnaburgh St. London NW1 3ND

RINGTHEBELL.com on Archive.org

Credit Card Hotline
UK / Ireland 0171 636 1393 USA / Canada 011 44 171 636 1393



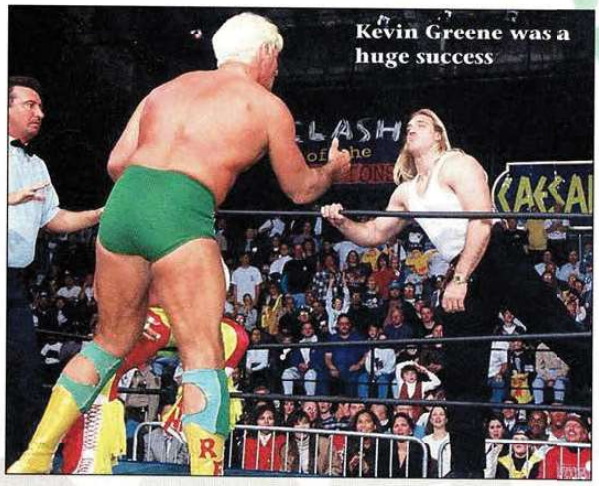
HotLine

MARK MADDEN

On the past, some major wrestling cards have been nicknamed "The Super Bowl of Wrestling."

That being the case Super Bowl XXX, which saw the Dallas Cowboys beat the Pittsburgh Steelers 27 - 17 on Jan. 28, may someday be remembered as "The Starrcade of Super Bowls."

Not much can pull media and public attention away from football during Super Bowl week. But WCW did exactly that as Steelers linebacker Kevin Greene Lear-jetted to Las Vegas to be in the corner of Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage at the Clash of the Champions live on TBS Jan. 23.



Kevin Greene was a huge success

It was all the media wanted to talk about the day after the Clash. Pictures of Greene with Hogan and Savage were splashed across virtually every paper in America. The Clash drew an amazing 4.5 rating.

As Pittsburgh's premier sportswriter, I covered the Super Bowl. As WCW's man in Pittsburgh, I had to set things up with Kevin Greene.

I approached Kevin after a Steelers' practice just before the team left Pittsburgh for Arizona. Like I said, I am a sportswriter, so he eyed me warily.

"Kevin, Hulk Hogan would like you to be in his corner at WCW's Clash of the Champions next Tuesday," I said.

Greene's eyes brightened.

"Yeah?" he said. "Well here's my number. You have Hulk call me. Tell him I'll do everything I can for him."

The number was passed along, Hogan and WCW executive vice president Eric Bischoff called, and the rest is marketing and cable TV history.

Sadly, I could not attend the Clash, despite being offered the seat next to Greene on the Lear-jet from Phoenix to Las Vegas. My boss at the Post-Gazette somehow thought doing a story on the Super Bowl for the next day's paper was more indigenous to my existence. The nerve.

But I was what caused all this.

Actually, Kevin Greene was what caused all this. He's a Hulkamaniac from way back, as his long blond hair and habit of cupping his hand to his ear to acknowledge applause would attest to. He loves wrestling. He respects wrestling. He'll eventually end up in wrestling.

That's why this worked. And why Lawrence Taylor's WWF Wrestlemania stint a while back was a miserable failure.

Greene went to the Clash of the Champions a pro football player at the top of his game. He went during the week before his biggest game. Like I said, he treated wrestling with respect. He had passion and excitement in his eyes.

Taylor went to Wrestlemania as a washed-up has-been.He went dragging along suspensions for substance abuse. He went, not with passion and excitement in his eyes, but with dollar signs. He gave minimal effort for easy money.

Sometimes I am so, so tired of the WWF pushing itself as family entertainment. This is a microcosm of what bushwah that really is. Who would you rather have your son turn out like, Kevin Greene or Lawrence Taylor?

Easy choice, right?

As I said, Kevin Greene's a Hulkamaniac. I am not.

Hey, there's no accounting for taste.

But Steelers line backer Levon Kirkland, who accompanied Greene to Las Vegas, comes from my side of the wrestling street. Kirkland is a Ric Flair fan.

"If they'd have let me, I'd have run in there and helped Ric out," said Kirkland the day after the Clash. "And someone would have been bailing me out now."

Steelers quarterback Mike Tomczak didn't go to Las Vegas. "But I wish I had. I'd have helped Ric even the odds. Whooo!"

Tomczak's "Whooo!" was sadly pretty lame, more reminiscent of the short clipped-off "Whooo!" of Flair's Mid-Atlantic Wrestling salad days instead of today's more luxuriant, drawn-out version.

But as usual, I digress.

I ran into Kevin Greene after the Clash, but a few days before the Super Bowl. I thanked him for working the Clash and he said, "No, thank YOU." When I mentioned he could make a million dollars in wrestling, he said, "Hey, give me a call. I'll be ready."

We will. Maybe sooner than you think.

And Greene will be ready. No doubt about that. Even in the place where the big boys play, Kevin Greene might turn out to be larger than life.

By the way the Cowboys had no wrestling fans. A pox on them.

I must congratulate WCW for bringing back Woman, one of wrestling's most vibrant and gorgeous females. Her return caught me totally and equivocally by surprise. And, having just watched TNT Monday Nitro the night after Super Bowl, I must congratulate Ric Flair for his long overdue pinfall win over Hulk Hogan. And I must congratulate Bobby Heenan for making it through that post-Super Bowl Nitro without uttering one of the seven words you can never say on television. It takes a real trouper to bounce back from adversity.

Mark Madden hosts the WCW Hotline updates on a Wednesday and Friday

BUZZ

MEAN GENE OKERLUND

For months, the world has speculated about the true condition of "Macho Man" Randy Savage's left arm, as it has been hidden under any number of wraps and athletic tape. Was it a severe flaw in his game? Was it just a hoax — and the other arm was the real injured one? Savage, the true professional who would never offer a flaw in his game, has insisted that the wing is "110 percent."

Still, I've had my doubts.

So, I turned to WCW athletic trainer Chuck Tache, known to most, as "Coach." Tache said he couldn't — and wouldn't — say much about Savage's condition, other than the fact it was a serious elbow injury (specifically, to his tricep muscle) and that the World Champion chose not to have surgery on it.

"He's doing fine; it's healing quite well," said Tache, 28, WCW's trainer for the past three years.

Tache, who now lives in Atlanta, is originally from Erie, Pa. He graduated from Seneca High School in 1985, where he played football (cornerback and tight end) and baseball (pitcher). He then went to Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, where, in December of 1989, he received a health and physical education degree, with a concentration on sports medicine.

"I injured my knee as a high school senior; that was the first time I realized I was interested in sports medicine," said Tache, who then did his rehabilitation at Hamot Sports Medicine in Erie — a place he worked for about 18 months after college graduation.

Tache is the first — and still the only — full-time athletic trainer in professional wrestling.

"This position has come a long way since I first started," he said. "Basically, I came to WCW to develop a sports medicine program, and to show what a proper sports medicine program can do for the wrestlers. That includes, among other things, education about injuries. As an athletic trainer, you've got to be very unbiased. The personalities of the wrestlers — what they do in the ring — has no bearing on me or what I do. My job is to make sure everyone stays healthy and is able to wrestle. Thus, I treat Sting and Ric Flair equally, even if they are bitter rivals."

Tache has had plenty of major health woes to worry about of late, such as Hulk Hogan's neck, Paul Orndorff's neck and Dave Sullivan's quadricep.

"I love sports medicine. It is quite rewarding to work with the individuals who I work with; they are some of the best wrestlers of all time," said Tache, a sports buff known for his backstage banter about his beloved Oakland Raiders, Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Braves, among others.

"One of the highlights of working for WCW is, watching a new wrestler come in, then develop into a major superstar. That's rewarding to watch, especially if I have something to do with his health," Tache said.

Watch for Tache on WCW television, although we naturally hope he never appears ... because that'll mean someone is injured. Otherwise, just say "hello" to this likeable chap at the arena.

Now on to some other subjects ... There were so many celebrities, mostly from the television industry, in attendance at the Clash of the Champions in Las Vegas that WCW officials were almost forced to rope off a special VIP section. One young Hollywood hotshot who I personally enjoyed meeting (and not just because he is a hockey buff, like me and my family) was Jason Hervey, who played the evil older brother Wayne on 'The Wonder Years.' Hervey hadn't been seen at a WCW event in several years, but, still, was greeted with hugs from several wrestlers and front-office executives. Hervey, I am told, is a close, personal, long time friend of WCW executive producer Eric Bischoff. Hmm ... could a return to WCW's telecasts be imminent for Jason?

WCW Magazine editor Colin Bowman, I am told, had a much heavier suitcase when he returned home to London after the Las Vegas Nitro and Clash of the Champions. Bowman reportedly was a big-time winner at blackjack.

Disco Inferno was doing a phone interview with a Tampa (Fla.) radio station at 7 a.m., from his Las Vegas hotel room. The energetic superstar was so excited talking about his 'Shake Your Booty' tour that he woke up several nearby guests — and they responded by pounding on his door.

Speaking of Disco, last month you saw where I bought a copy of his new CD, purely for research purposes you understand. Well, my advice to you is: save your money. My advice to him: don't quit your day job.

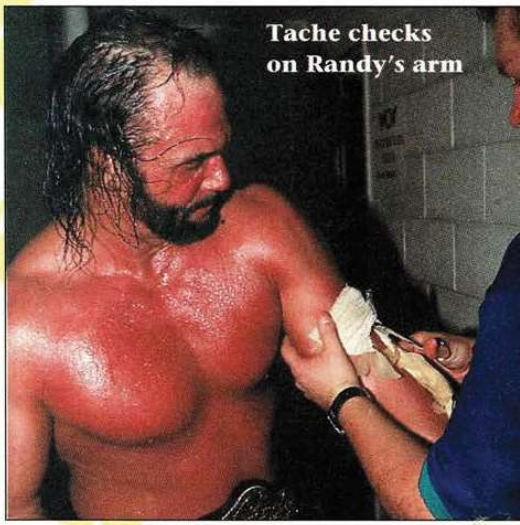
Comedian Rosie O'Donnell and her adopted son Parker met the "Macho Man" at Caesers, as the actress couldn't get the key to her room to work.

David Faustino (Bud Bundy) of the hit FOX show "Married ... With Children" broke off from his dinner to meet Lex Luger and Sting during a January appearance at Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas.

Numerous WCW superstars appeared on "Baywatch" February 19-23 during the important sweep's week.

Many of you have been asking just who it was that Paul Orndorff was referring to when he described how he earned respect following a sneak attack from a 450-pound gorilla? Well regular callers to the hotline will be aware of the whole incident, which ultimately led to Vader leaving WCW with his tail between his legs. Vader, who is a bully, always throwing his weight around was given a lesson in humility, not to mention the butt-kicking of his life after he attacked Mr. Wonderful backstage in Atlanta. This proves the old point that no matter how big and tough you think you are, there is always someone badder and tougher than you!

Until next month, may all your days be like game seven of the Stanley Cup.



Tache checks on Randy's arm

Mean Gene Okerlund is the co-host of the weekly WCW Main Event program on TBS Superstation. You can also hear him every Saturday on the WCW Hotline.

POWER
Riddell
BIKE.

The return at Las Vegas

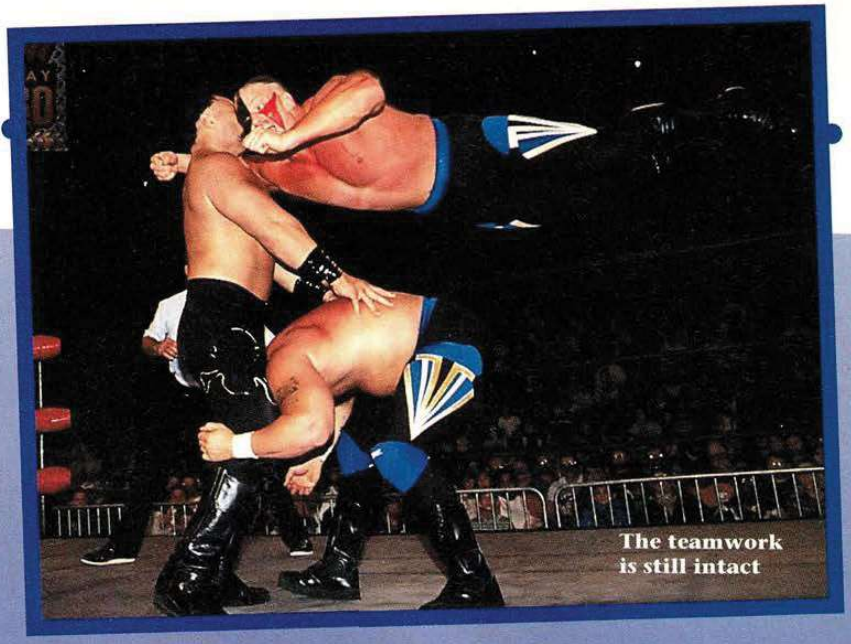
THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN

Hawk and Animal reunite in WCW

Shortly after 10 p.m., on January 21st, in the baggage claim area at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas, Nev., the world of professional wrestling took a dramatic turn. Some will say it was positive, but just as many — perhaps more, especially among active WCW competitors — will say it was negative.

You see, it was there when Road Warrior Hawk, having arrived in town earlier in the day, returned to the airport to greet and pick up his longtime tag team partner, Animal, who had just flown in. They hugged, high-fived each other, then set out on their championship path.

First stop: Clash of the Champions, Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, Nev., 48 hours later. The bad boys from Chicago — with their trademark haircuts, face-paint and spiked shoulder pads — interrupted an Eric Bischoff interview with then-new World Tag Team Champions Sting and Lex Luger. After cordially


The teamwork is still intact

greeting the elated — yet shocked — Sting, Hawk and Animal immediately demanded a title shot (Luger simply stood to the side, completely uninterested in The Road Warriors' return).

Yep, the boys are back!

"We really don't care who has the belts: Sting/Lex Luger, Hulk Hogan/Randy Savage, Harlem Heat, the Blue Bloods, the Barrio Brothers, Public Enemy, the Nasty Boys, Faces of Fear or the American Males ... whoever has the belts had better be watching their backs because The Road Warriors are back in WCW, and we're coming after those belts. We want them back and we're willing to climb any ladder they (the WCW Executive Committee) want us to climb," said Animal. "I'm in WCW to be a tag team champion, that's it."

Said Hawk, "The good thing about our return is, it's what the fans want; they want to see Hawk and Animal back together again; they've been longing for it. I'm not trying to blow our own horn, but, we are the top dogs of tag team wrestling. Hey, we have won every known tag team title in this business, and no one else has done that. We are still young men and still in our prime. Plus, we are now rejuvenated with a hunger to get right back to where we left off, and that's with some belts around our waists."

The Road Warriors back then, are they still as awesome

WCW has been a one Road Warrior federation since Hawk's return last summer, and Hawk has mainly been involved in singles feuds (with Meng and Kurasawa, among others). Animal, meanwhile, has been out of the sport since the fall of '92, when he suffered a severe spinal injury.

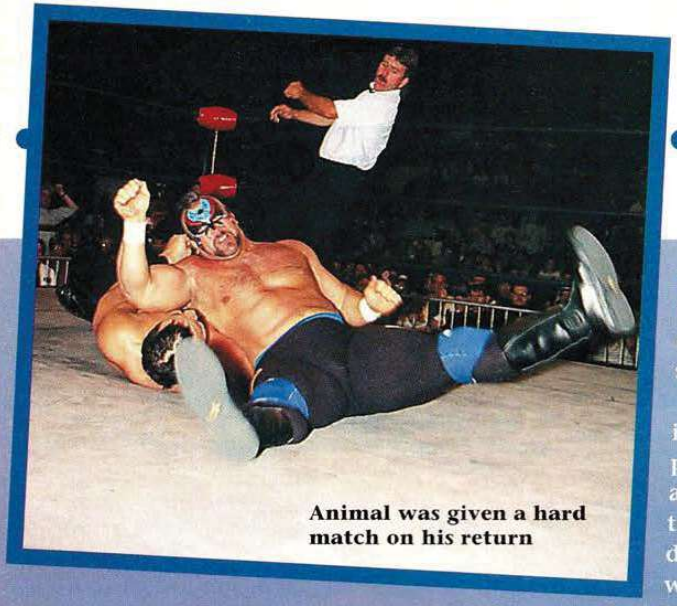
"There's only one reason we're back together in WCW: because there's no other place with this caliber of opponents. There are no slacks here. As far as I'm concerned, there is no other wrestling organization in the United States," Hawk said. "The one thing we definitely have going for us is, we don't fear anyone. I can guarantee you this, there is not one wrestler in WCW who will say in public that they are glad to see the Road Warriors back in action. Sure, there will be plenty of wrestlers who will shake our hands and say, 'Great to have you back in WCW.' But, there really isn't one wrestler who WANTS to get in the ring with us."

That's because the Road Warriors have played the PTA Way throughout their 12-year careers. Of course, that's Pain, Torture and Agony.

"We have what we like to call our 'Annual Beatings Quota,' and, well, Animal is four years behind, so we've got a lot of catching up to do," Hawk said. "It's been a tough road for Animal; he broke his back, broke his tailbone and cracked the vertebrae above it. It required a lot of therapy. There are going to be a lot of people who will say that Animal will have a severe case of ring-rust, but, he's no idiot; he wouldn't get in there if he wasn't ready."

Animal, in fact, has been training daily, sometimes twice a day, under the guidance of his Minnesota neighbor Brad Rheingans, the former Olympian.

"Anyone who comes into the ring thinking Animal isn't 100-percent, well, they're in serious, serious trouble," Hawk said of his 285-pound



Animal was given a hard match on his return

partner. "We want to wrestle everyone. We don't really care what people's opinions are. We say what we're gonna do — and we get it done."

"I'm elated to be back together with Animal, someone I've been friends with since we were 8-years-old. I'm not a bad singles wrestler and I don't mind doing it, but, I was cut out for tag team action. And there's no better feeling for me than to know that I can tag Animal when I need to."

Said Animal, "What a lot of people might not realize is, when Hawk and I started out as tag team wrestlers, we were just 19- and 20-year-old kids from Chicago. We were the team that said it was going to get a job done, and did."

Consequently, The Road Warriors have held every North American title, including the AWA, WWF and WCW. Plus, Hawk is a former New Japan tag team titlist as half of the Hell Raisers (with partner Kensuke Sasaki).

"We know each others' moves, when to tag in, when to tag out, how to back up each other, when to bail each other out, etc. With us, everything is instinct," Animal said. "And that's something today's tag teams don't have. What people might not realize is, any tag team can win over a bunch of nobodys. But, the way we've gotten our name over the years is by going in the ring with teams that are somebodys — and winning. When you're successful beating the top dog, then you are the top dog — not until then. In tag team wrestling, everyone knows that you are NOT a great tag team until you've beaten the Road Warriors. And, until this date, no one has beaten us ... and we're not planning on changing that streak."

Animal insists he is "120 percent" healthy and is quick to challenge any doubters. Hawk even went so far as to say that Animal might be in better shape than him "because he has had to work so hard in terms of conditioning just to get the doctor's OK."

"A lot of people in the wrestling world let their guard down, not us. You have to take every opponent serious, and we do. We go at things 110 percent, regardless if the match is on TV or not, in front of 90,000 fans or 900. And that's the difference between us and anyone else; we never slack off, we never let our guard down," said Animal, who has been power-slamming and drop-kicking countless prospective wrestlers at Rheingans' training camp as part of his rehabilitation.

Said Hawk, "It's to our advantage if any team thinks we might be slower, hurt, or simply have any flaw, because they will then be in for a big surprise. The way we have always approached the business of wrestling — and, yes, wrestling is a business — is that we'd like everyone thinking they've got us playing their game, but, in reality, they're playing our game."

Are The Road Warriors past their prime?

No way, they insist.

Both Road Warriors have overcome serious injuries during their careers. So, Animal's recent health concerns shouldn't be a major woe. Consider: Animal suffered a skull fracture and broken cheekbone years ago during a match against the Warlord. He was supposed to be out for six months, but returned after two; Hawk broke his shin years ago in Japan and literally cut the cast off to return to action; Hawk had his arm broken by Kurasawa last August following a cheap-shot attack after a match and returned stronger than ever.

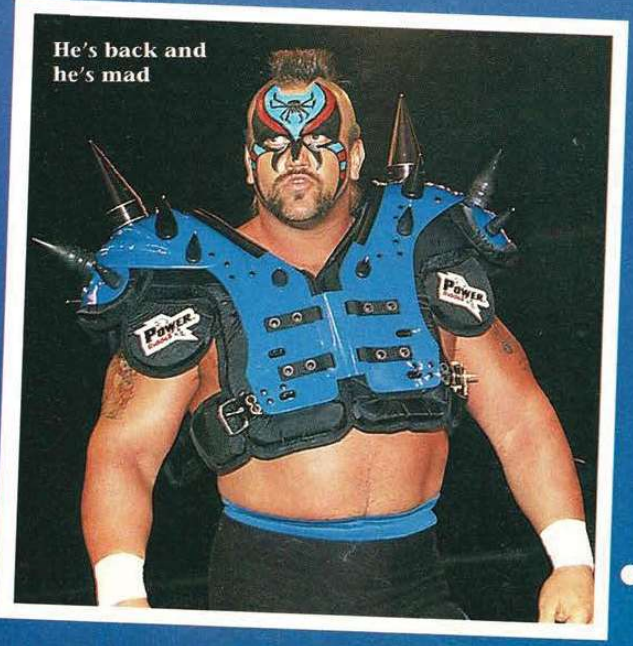
"There's a mystique with Elvis because he was the original, and so are we," Hawk said. "As John Lennon said, before Elvis there was no one ... and before the Road Warriors there was no one."

Animal added, "We're often imitated, but never duplicated. We're a team that comes around, oh, once ever 50 years. The Road Warrior mystique is something that can't be described."

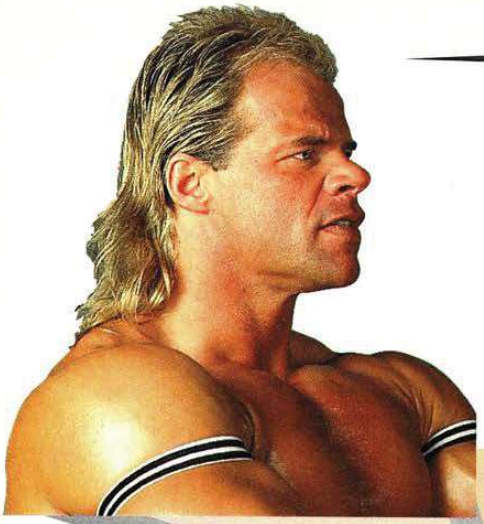
Neither Road Warrior would comment directly on a return of their former manager, Paul Ellering. Hawk simply said, "I guess we'll all have to wait and see."

Animal then chimed in, "Sure, we would have gotten as far as we have in this sport by ourselves, but not as fast without Paul Ellering. So maybe that'll help answer your question. Paul Ellering has a genius-like IQ and is doing speaking engagements for Merrill Lynch, among others. He's a former Junior National Powerlifting Champion and, yes, we're still in regular contact with him."

The wrestling world had best be on guard ... The Road Warriors are loose and looking to make up for lost time!



He's back and he's mad



COLLISION

LEX LUGER

The "Total Package" and the Stinger insist their friendsh words seriously. After all, they've gone all the way to the look unbeatable. These days, the rumor mill says that cracks a one day cause these two WCW superstars to go to war. Coul

"We've been best friends for 10 years," Sting keeps telling Gene Okerlund, getting increasingly perturbed each time that Mean Gene asks the seemingly obvious question. "That's all there is to it. I don't like what's going on with Lex and Jimmy Hart, but he's going to straighten out. Luger and I are a team, and that's how it's gonna stay!"

Those words are enough to make many of Sting's longtime fans scream "Owwwww" ... but this time, it's an expression of pain, not a war cry.

We know that Hulk Hogan and Randy Savage don't like this situation! Yes, Sting and Luger are best friends, an incredible team, and the current WCW World Tag Team Champions. Most WCW fans know these facts. We must look deeper into this most unique situation, or we wouldn't be wrestling journalists.

Ponder this fact:

Luger held back his supposed best friend, Sting, when they both were tossed out of the ring by Ric Flair at World War 3. It seemed to many people that Luger made sure that if he couldn't win, neither could Sting. Flair later defeated Randy Savage for the World title.

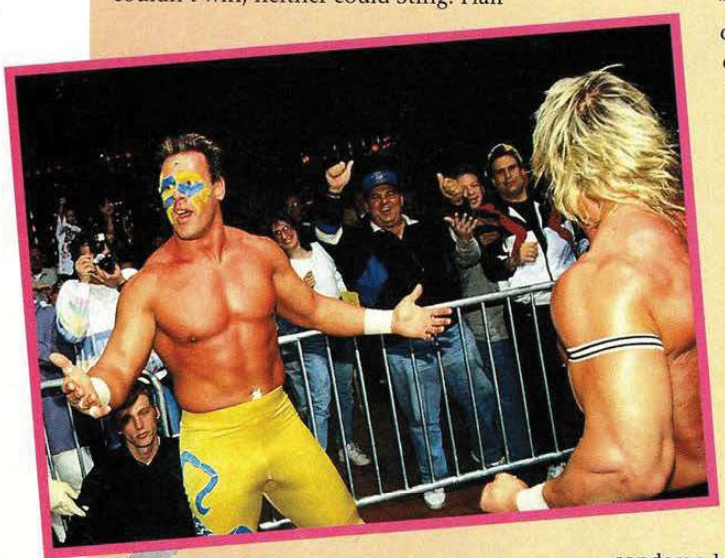
Ponder this:

When Luger pinned Booker T to win the World Tag Team Championship on WCW Monday Nitro, he used a handful of silver dollars handed to him by Jimmy Hart. Sting, busy outside the ring, never saw Hart on the apron, nor did he see Luger blast T with the coins. In fact, Sting's first words after Luger gave him his belt were, "What happened? We won? How?"

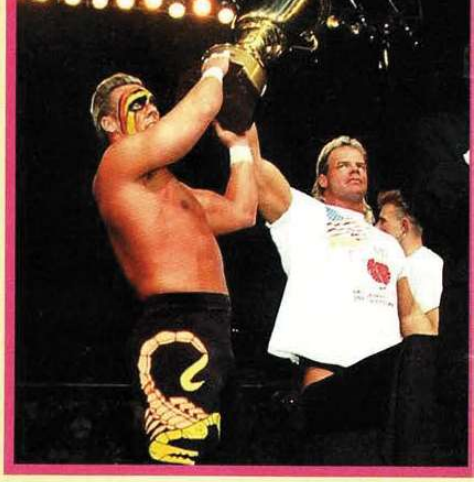
Do you think the prototypical all-American sportsman would've been happy if he knew how Luger captured the very shady pinfall?

Ponder this:

The next night, The Road Warriors made an unexpected appearance as Sting and Luger were being interviewed. Immediately, they requested a match for the tag team title. Sting's response was an enthusiastic "Sure!" Luger, on the other hand, was doing everything he could to turn down the match, citing "Animal's bad back," other "worthy" teams, and so on.



Fans are also questioning just who is straightening who out. Is Sting becoming like Luger or is Luger becoming like Sting? Sting's hair color has changed. After discovering his partner had cheated their way to the tag titles did he condemn him? No. He just said it's a rough business and Harlem Heat were paid back for their cheap tactics. So what is going on. Are we witnessing a Sting trip to the 'darkside?'



Forgive us, Luger fans, but it's obvious there is a bit more coward in Luger than there is in Sting. Luger has wrestled brilliantly, as has Sting, in recent months. Although they hold the World Tag Team straps, both men continually claim that they are both striving to regain the World Heavyweight Championship that they have both proudly held before.

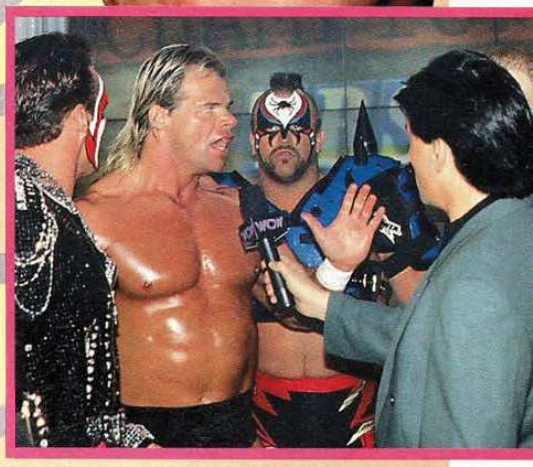
And therein lies the rub.

Now, we doubt that it could ever happen. But what if Sting and Luger worked their way into the numbers one and two positions for the WCW World title — and were forced to meet each other in a contenders bout? Worse, what if one of them did win the World title, and was forced to meet the other? Even worse, what if one

COURSE

R VS STING

ip is as strong as ever, and thus far it's easy to take their e WCW World Tag Team Championship, and as a team they e forming in this seemingly impenetrable partnership that could d it happen ... and could WCW withstand the mega-explosion?



man turned against the other, and their in-ring skirmishes were based on sheer hatred rather than personal gain?

The way things seem now, none of this seems in the realm of possibility. Forget that just long enough to finish this article. A Sting-Luger match, or feud, could be the most earth-shattering circumstance to hit WCW in years. These men have met before, and each time the results were stunning.

In years past, Luger and Sting battled over the World title, over being Horsemen, and just over who was the better man. There was little to choose between the two. Each man won an equal share of the bouts. If a feud between Luger and Sting occurred today, we think it could be the most heated series of battles ever.

If either Sting or Luger won the feud, it could mean the end of the other man's career.

"It's just too much to think about," said Marcus Bagwell, who was Sting's closest friend in WCW prior to Luger's return. "We talk about it in the locker room all the time. Sting versus Luger would be an incredible match, and you know that both locker rooms would empty out just to watch it. It's hard to pick a winner, mainly because there is so much emotion between these two. They're partners in the ring and friends outside the ring. That doesn't always happen, but that's the case here. Ugh...don't let them get into a fight!"

So what if they did? Who could have the edge? Sting might be a tad quicker than Luger, but Luger might be a slight bit more powerful than Sting. Both men have the same amount of experience. Both have been rulebreakers; both have been fan favorites. Both are truly great competitors.

Neither would want this feud to happen.

"Stop bringing up that garbage!" Luger steamed at Chris Cruise on WCW Pro Wrestling "We're friends. We're going to be the greatest team in the history of WCW. Stop asking about us!"

But we all must. Sting versus Luger is a dream match. When emotions run high, say, if Luger or Sting turned against the other, they assuredly would have three things at stake. They'd be out to establish the higher ranking, the World title, and they assuredly would be out to drive the other from WCW forever.

We've seen that happen before. When Ric Flair betrayed Sting right before he reassembled the Four Horsemen, Sting immediately hated Flair again, and he hasn't forgiven him to this day. If Luger were ever to betray Sting (and with Jimmy Hart around to poison Luger's mind, don't bet against it), Sting would feel the same way about Luger as he does about Flair.

Recently, we took an informal poll in the WCW locker rooms as to who might win a Luger vs. Sting match. The result: 11 men thought Sting, 10 men and a woman thought Luger (we wont tell you which female cast the vote) and the rest couldn't decide.

Sting and Luger, we're not trying to cause trouble here. Our staff believes you are both world class athletes and two of the greatest stars in history. Your places in the wrestling hall of fame are secure. We also hope you remain friends forever.

That's what makes one last match between Sting and Lex Luger such an intriguing idea. Do you agree?

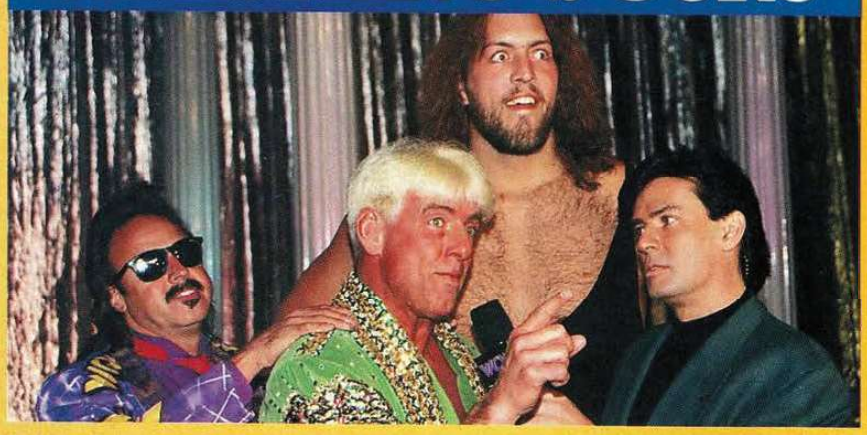
Tag Talk

In the USA or Canada, write to: **Tag Talk, WCW Magazine, One CNN Center, Box No.105366, Atlanta, GA30348-5366**

In the UK or Ireland, write to: **Tag Talk, WCW Magazine, Cell Publishing, 28/30 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1 3ND**

or send your comments to us via E-Mail.Our addresses are **WCWMAG@cix.compulink.co.uk or WCWMAG@aol.com**

WRESTLING'S GURU



I think Eric Bischoff is the best wrestling promoter there is today. He has done so much in 1995, including bringing back the Great American Bash; he put Bash at the Beach, on the beach; allowed Hogan to meet the Giant at Havoc; produced the first ever three ring battle royal at World War 3. He was also responsible for the triangle match at Starrcade, the World Cup of Wrestling and every other excellent PPV in 1995.

However the best thing that happened in 1995 was Nitro. I've followed the show from Minneapolis to Charlotte, Denver to Salem, Chicago to Atlanta, Vegas to Canton and all over the USA.

Keep up the good work, Eric.

John Massey, Spotsylvania, VA

Thank you Eric Bischoff, for all the good work you have done this year. Bischoff is a true wrestling guru and czar. Remember it is what goes on behind the scenes that make WCW the best wrestling organization in the world, not just the spectacular wrestlers and matches.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated Mr. Bischoff.

Jeff Wallace, Manitoba, Canada

PARADISE FOUND

I've been a fan of the WWF since 1987. I began wondering why Hulk Hogan, Bobby Heenan and the "Macho Man" had disappeared. Then one night while channel surfing, I fell upon WCW Saturday Night and heard Bobby Heenan. I stuck with it and saw the Hulkster and "Macho Man." I couldn't believe it and so I ordered Halloween Havoc. That event was the best PPV I ever saw in my life. WCW rules!

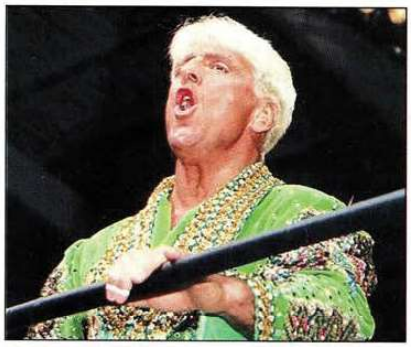
Drew Gleitsman, Hills, NY

FLAIRS DOMINANCE

Please tell me who Ric Flair has beaten and lost to in achieving his 12 World title reigns.

Robert Whisler, Des Moines, IA

OK, here goes; Beat Dusty Rhodes; Lost to Harley Race; B. Harley Race; L. Harley Race; B. Harley Race; L. Kerry Von Erich; B. Kerry Von Erich; L. Dusty Rhodes; B. Dusty Rhodes; L. Ronnie Garvin; B. Ronnie Garvin; L. Ricky Steamboat; B. Ricky Steamboat; L. Sting; B. Sting; L. Tatsumi Fujinami; B. Tatsumi Fujinami; B. Barry Windham, L. Rick Rude; B. Big Van Vader; L. Hulk Hogan; B. Randy Savage; L. Randy Savage. C.B.



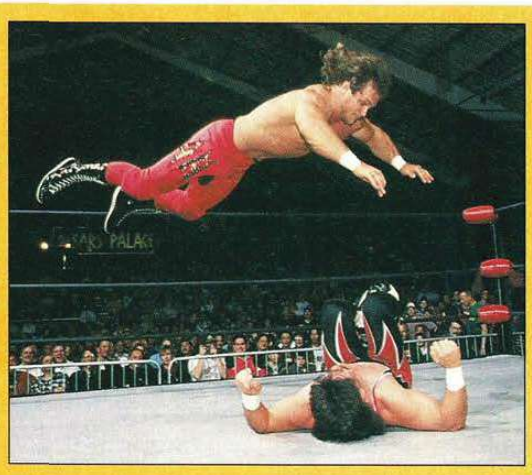
Go for it Eddie

Thank you Mark Madden and WCW for the recent articles about my favorite wrestler Eddie Guerrero. They summed up my thoughts exactly. Also thanks WCW for giving everyone the chance to see the world's best wrestler, Eddie Guerrero.

Nadine Eller, Toone, TN

TOP 10

Inspired by the Late Show, here is my top ten list. 10 Reasons why WCW is better than the WWF



10 This is where the big boys play
9 Eddie Guerrero has more talent than the entire WWF roster combined
8 In the WWF Vinnie Vegas is a top ranked contender, in WCW he was ...
7 Look at the Diamond Doll, then look at Sunny ... Now look at the Diamond Doll
6 WCW has great tag teams like Public Enemy, who is there in the WWF
5 Hulk Hogan could destroy anyone in that promotion
4 Monday Nitro
3 Chris Benoit is the best wrestler there is, was and ever will be from Canada
2 No gold freaks here
1 WCW won the World Cup of Wrestling over New Japan

Travis Bowles, Baltimore, MD

DUSTY IS THE BEST

It is about time that everybody in WCW realized that Dusty Rhodes is the greatest wrestling person in the world today. Not only is his commentary excellent but he has beaten many of today's stars, including Ric Flair, Lex Luger, Randy Savage and Arn Anderson to name a few.

I wish he would come out of retirement one more time so we can all get funky like a monkey again!

Bring back the dream!

A Piper, Lakeland, FL

DOWN UNDER

In Australia WCW rules the television. We see the one hour WCW Worldwide program each week and I love it. Alex Wright is my favorite and I would like it if you could print a photo of him. How about you start showing us the PPV's and selling videos?

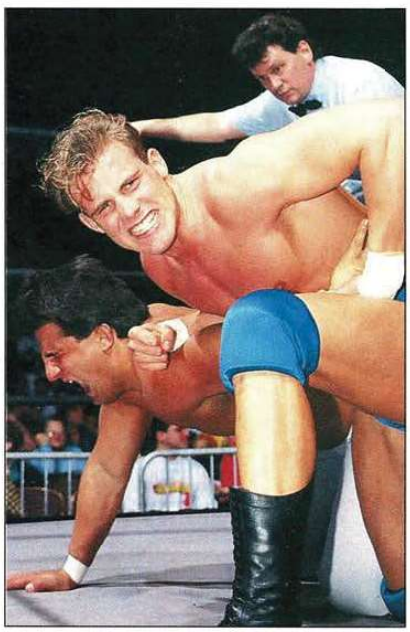
On a final note would you consider touring the world's largest island one day?

Damien Heath, Adelaide, Australia

DISREPUTABLE

I recently saw a Monday night wrestling show that wasn't Nitro it was called Bore or something. Anyway this show was trying to discredit WCW by making false accusations. That promoter must have finally flipped his wig because everyone knows WCW has a drug testing policy, everybody knows that WCW is the best wrestling organization in the world and that WCW Magazine is the best wrestling magazine there is.

D Brennan, London, England



NWA

Could you please tell me how the NWA was linked to WCW?

MW Perrone, Lymm, England

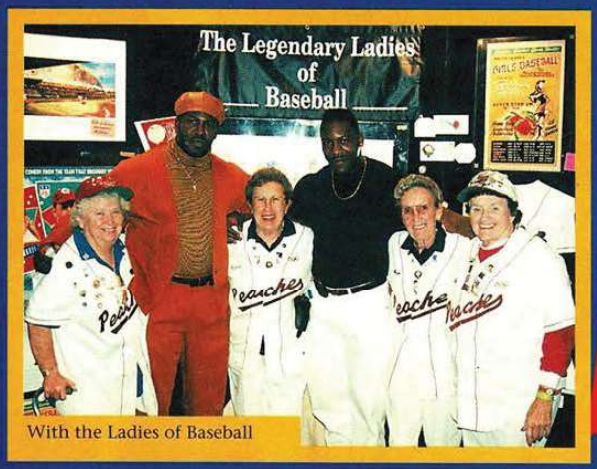
Wrestling in the USA was once divided into several local territories and governed by the National Wrestling Alliance. The NWA Champion was the true World's Champion and defended the belt from region to region. When the WWWF pulled out from the NWA and declared it's own World Champion, the first cracks in the organization began to appear. As the WWF started on it's expansionism program, it began to wipe out all of the local territories until they were forced to band together to form one group. This was the group that was purchased in 1988 by Turner Broadcasting Systems Inc., and became World Championship Wrestling. C.B.

GO STEVE GO

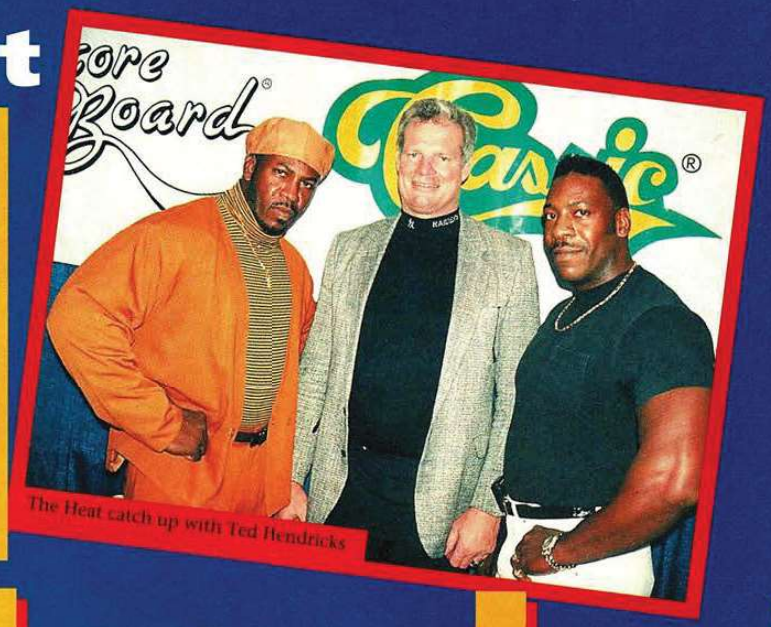
After seeing the recent interviews with Mike Ditka, I am convinced that Steve McMichael should become a wrestler and have Da Coach as his manager. Of course I will miss his commentary on Nitro but he will still be a part of WCW. Steve McMichael and the Hulkster are the main reasons that Nitro is the best.

John Dwyer, Jackson Hts, NY

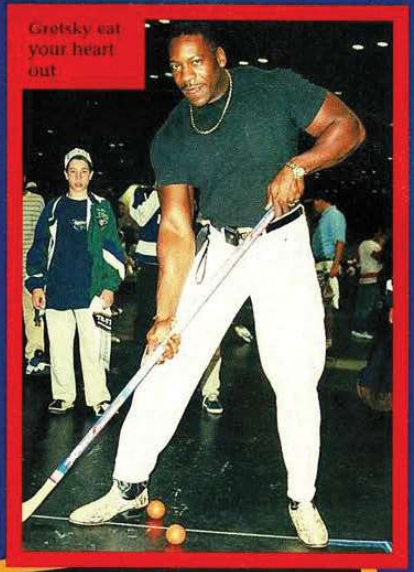
Out & about



With the Ladies of Baseball


The Heat catch up with Ted Hendricks

Hockey's f


Gretsky eat your heart out

Some of the greatest up-and-coming names in hockey converged on Houston, Texas, in mid-January for the annual International Hockey League (IHL) All-Star Weekend.

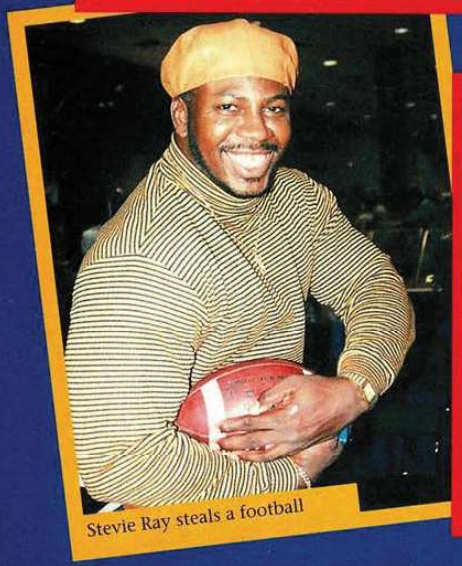
In addition to the game that featured future NHL players, there was the Texaco IHL All-Stars Skills Competition, the Bauer Heritage Game between the 1980 USA Olympic Hockey team and the 1970s WHA Championship Houston Aeroes, a concert by Bruce Hornsby and the Range, and the Collector's Edge IceFest and 10th-annual Tri-Star Collectors Show.

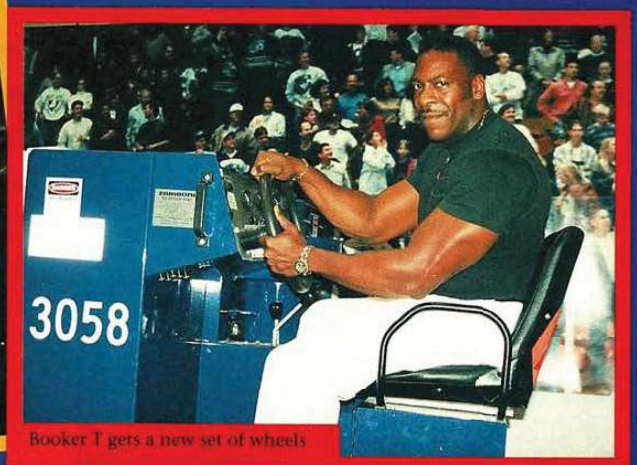
And an appearance by Harlem Heat, Stevie Ray and Booker T.

That's right, four-time WCW Tag Team Champions of the World, Harlem Heat, visited the trading card show/IceFest "just to check it out," Stevie Ray said.

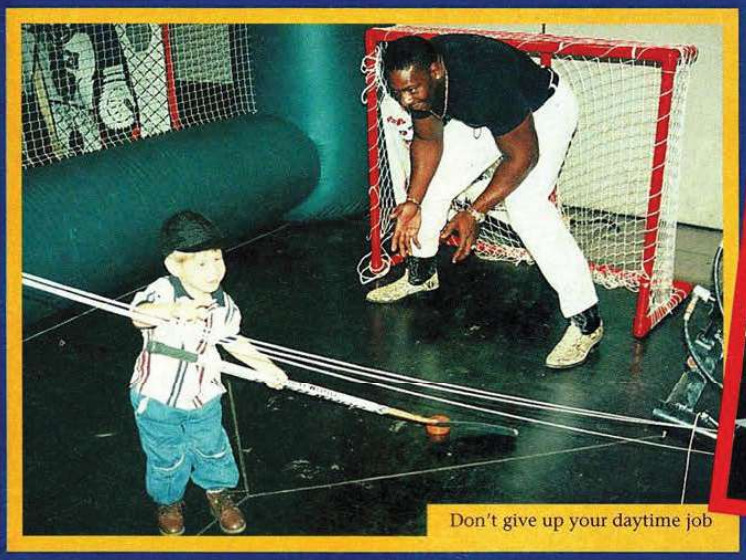
The two unannounced guests walked the show floor for about two hours, mingling with shocked fans, signing autographs, participating in most of the interactive events and examining trading cards.

"We just wanted to see some of the ins and outs of other sports; that's why we attended," Stevie Ray said. "My brother and I both like hockey, particularly for the aggressive action. And we also like the 'fighting'. After all real men don't have to cover themselves from head-to-toe in padding. And I guess the old adage is still true, Hockey is for wimps!"


Stevie Ray steals a football



Booker T gets a new set of wheels



Don't give up your daytime job

for wimps

The first activity they participated in that Saturday afternoon was an interactive video game, where they were the goalie — complete with stick, glove and blocker. (WCW Magazine must report that Stevie Ray was the better of the two; Booker T appeared frustrated and quite uncomfortable with the stick.)

The two then opted for some accuracy shooting, however, that didn't last long as neither could put the puck in the small holes of the draping that covered the net. So how did they respond to their sub-par shooting? By tearing down the draping, naturally.

Heat then moved to a nearby zamboni, which is the ice-cleaning machine and both boarded.

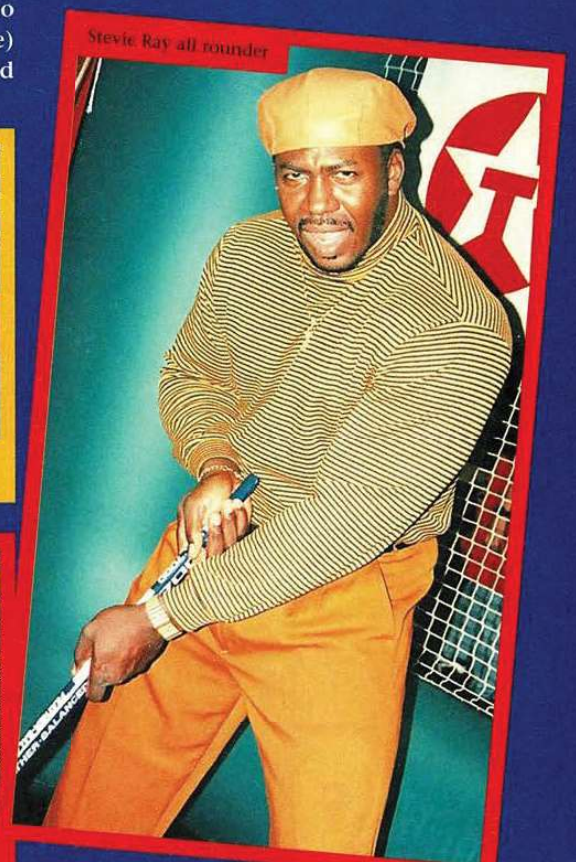
"Going to an event like that isn't something Harlem Heat normally does, but I'm glad we went ... I had a real good time," Stevie Ray said. "Just hanging out, believe it or not, was a lot of fun, especially for the fans. After all it isn't every day they get to meet the two greatest all round athletes in the world."

The afternoon also included meeting several sports celebrities, such as: "Mr. Hockey" Gordie Howe and Football Hall of Famer Ted Hendricks (Oakland Raiders) and the Legendary Ladies of Baseball, four former players from the All-American Girls Professional Baseball Association (AAGPBA) as depicted in the hit movie "A League of Their Own."

"I must admit, I didn't fair too well in some of the (interactive) games, but, I really had a good time at the event. It far-exceeded my expectations. I'm already looking forward to next year," Booker T said. "What was my highlight? Nailing the WCW Magazine photographer with a shot and, yes, that was planned!"

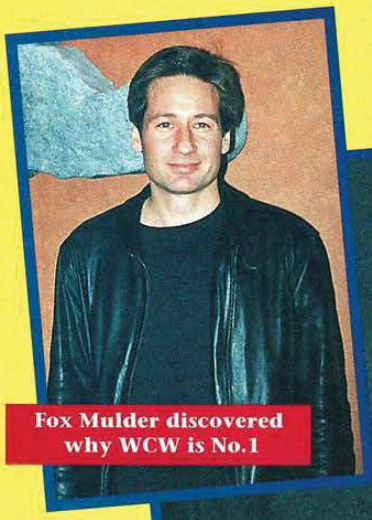
Gordie Howe was not impressed with their skills

"Yo where's the Harlem Heat cards?"

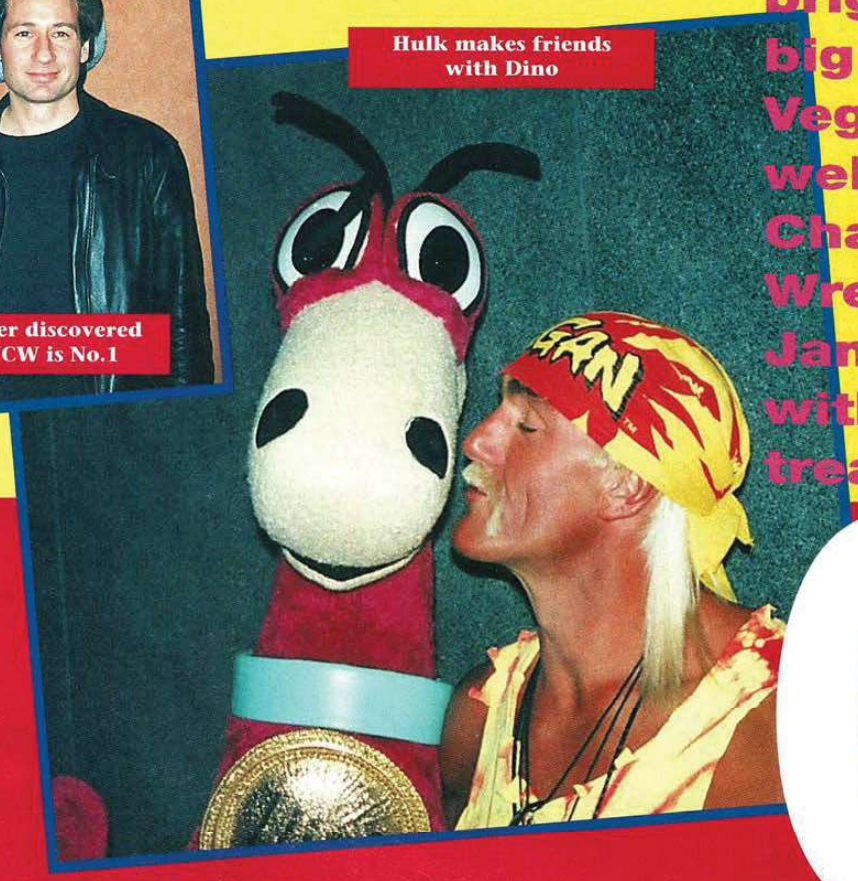


Stevie Ray all rounder

The city of bright lights and big stars — Las Vegas, Nev. — welcomed World Championship Wrestling (WCW) January 21-23 with red-carpet treatment.

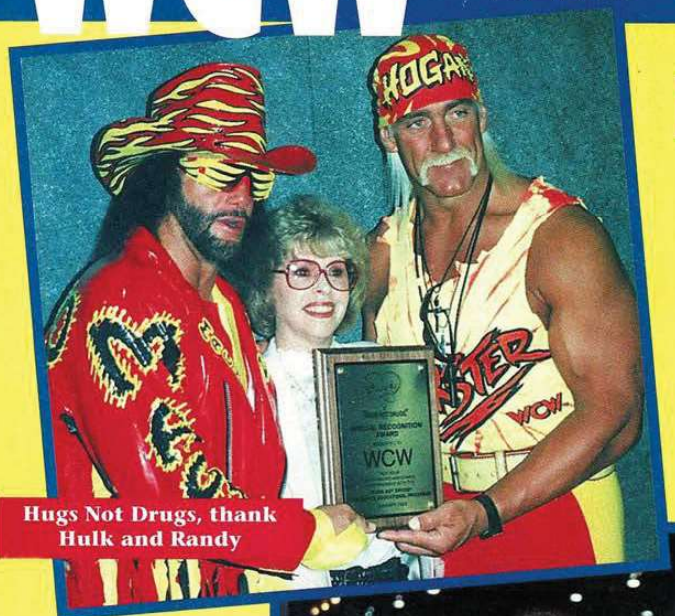


Fox Mulder discovered why WCW is No.1

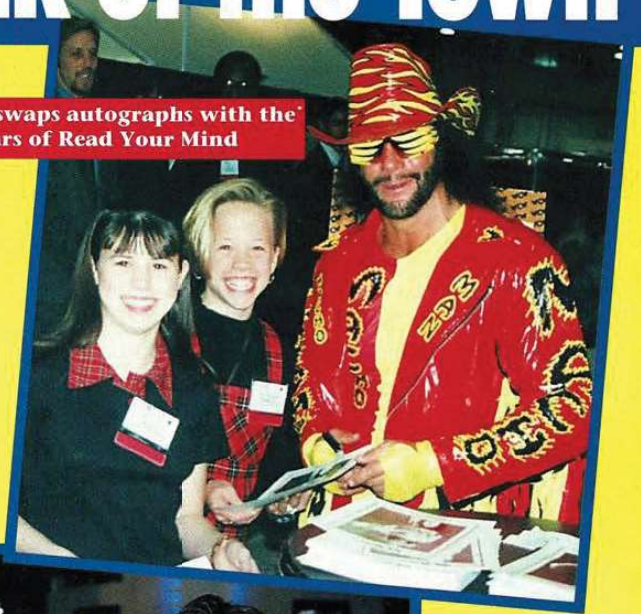


Hulk makes friends with Dino

ON WCW–The Talk of the Town



Hugs Not Drugs, thank Hulk and Randy



Savage swaps autographs with the stars of Read Your Mind

Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys

A ROLL

WCW held Monday Nitro (TNT) at Caesars Palace on the 22nd, then a Clash of the Champions (WTBS) on the 23rd. It would have been easier to get front-row seats at Siegfried and Roy than for either of these standing-room-only mega-shows. Both events had been sold-out for weeks in advance.

But the matches weren't the only WCW-related events in town then, not by a long shot. The National Association of Television Programming Executives convention was being held at the nearby Sands Convention Center. Countless television and movie stars were in attendance, many of whom stopped by the Turner Sports booth to meet such WCW superstars as Hulk Hogan and "Macho Man" Randy Savage, among others. The autograph lines were, it seemed, endless. Meanwhile, at the nearby WWF booth, there were less than 10 people at almost all hours.

"Man have things changed in three years," Mean Gene Okerlund commented.

David Duchovny ("The X-Files") and Brittany and Cynthia Daniel ("Sweet Valley High") were there, as were the stars of the new "Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys" mysteries. Plus, veteran actor Robert Ulrich, star of the new TV series "Lazarus" posed for a quick pic as did Beth Ann Morgan, Ivan Kim and Melanie Blake, the stars of "Read Your Mind." The Hulkster also was seen hanging out with Dino from the "Flintstones."

WCW officials also received an award in Las Vegas from Ruth Harris Shaw, President of the "Hugs Not Drugs" program. Ms. Shaw's magazine was featured in an Issue 2 photo with caption in WCW Magazine, including the phone number for her office (1-954-946-6692), and she said the response was "overwhelming."

Other Vegas highlights:

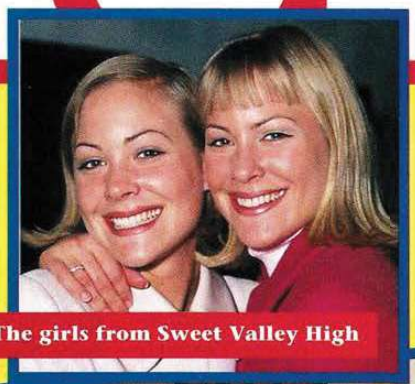
A Sunday evening reception was held and attended by Mr. & Mrs. Hulk Hogan, and Randy Savage and as a big surprise the returning Miss Elizabeth.

An appearance at Planet Hollywood by Sting and Lex Luger. (Ironically, Nasty Boy Jerry Sags 'innocently' strolled into the restaurant that evening and was outraged to see Sting and Luger. He caused such a raucous that Planet Hollywood officials were almost forced to call the police.)

After he had forced WCW officials to give him a microphone he shouted at the bemused duo, "There's a lot more to being a good tag team than simply being good friends ... you need heart ... you need soul ... and you had better be prepared to get nasty! You guys better watch yourselves, the Nasty Boys are coming after you."

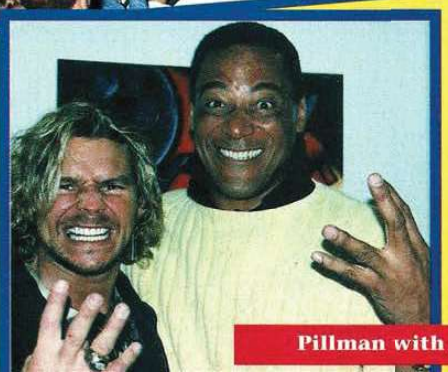
At that point David Faustino (Bud Bundy) arrived and happily posed for pictures with Sting and Luger. Not wishing to be upstaged, Sags instantly grabbed hold of the diminutive Faustino, forcing him to pose for photos. After Faustino made his excuses and left, Sags continued his rampage through Planet Hollywood. This time he found Mr & Mrs Steve McMichael out with their friends Mr and Mrs Kelly Gruber (ex-Toronto Blue Jays baseman). Once again a photographer had to be summoned so the foursome could be left in peace to enjoy a meal. The last Planet Hollywood saw of Sags was when he headed off to party with Rosie O'Donnell, Dan Ackroyd and Jim Belushi.

Savage and Hulk signed hundreds of autographs

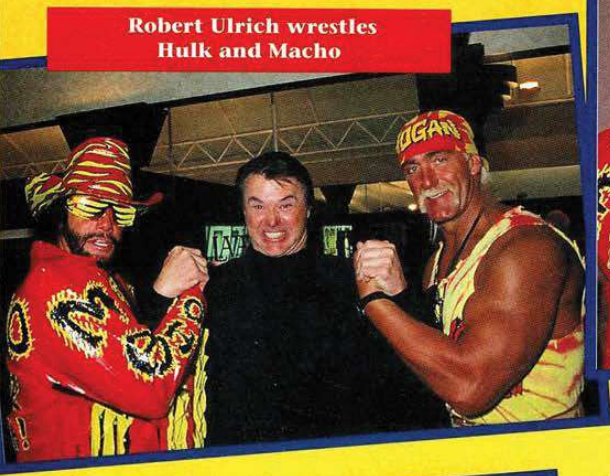


The girls from Sweet Valley High

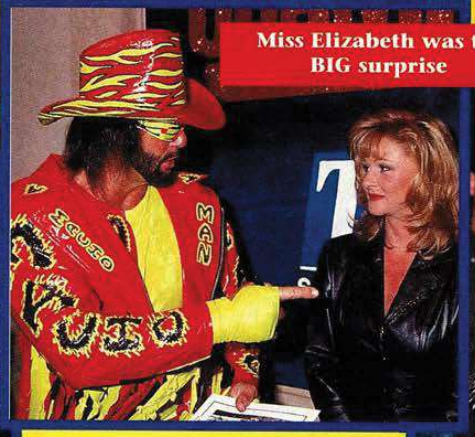
Savage and Hogan signed at a special Caesars Palace reception



Pillman with Al Cowling

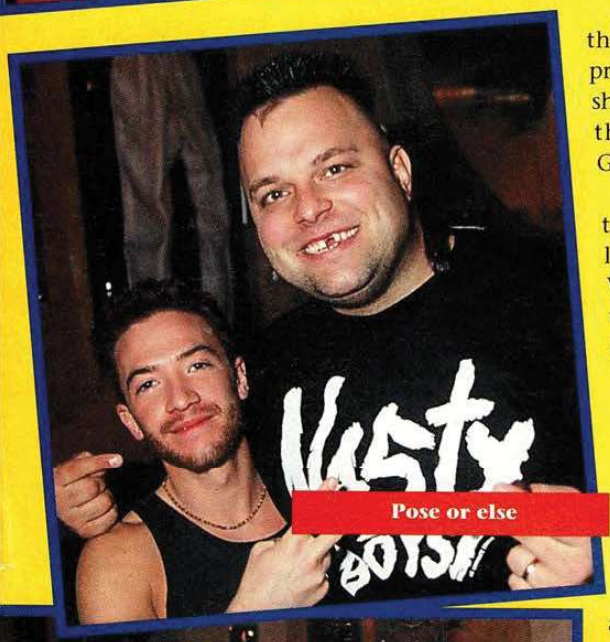


Robert Ulrich wrestles Hulk and Macho



Miss Elizabeth was the BIG surprise

Sags issues the challenge

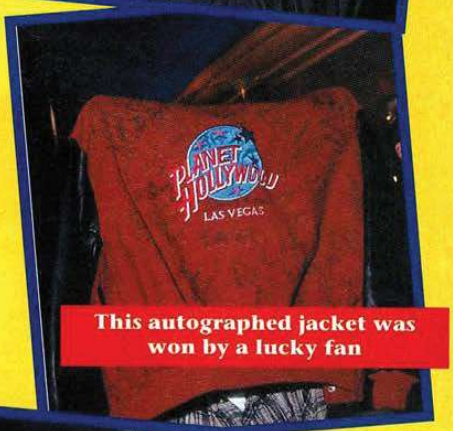


Pose or else

At the NATPE convention on the Wednesday and Thursday a procession of WCW stars were on show, including Sting, Lex Luger, the Road Warriors and the Giant.

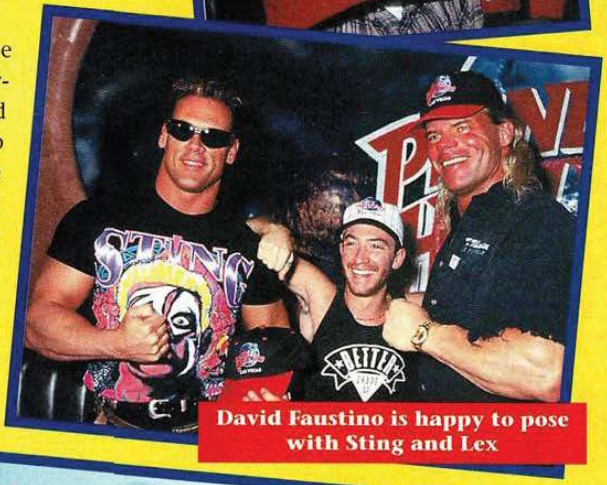
There was one uninvited guest to the convention however ... the loose cannon ... Brian Pillman. With no pass, he gatecrashed his way in to cause a couple of hours of chaos. His antics included; jumping a huge line of people to talk to George Foreman; greeting O.J.s pal Al Cowling with the words, "Hi killer!"; and grabbing hold of Jason Hervey whilst mocking him about his last stint in WCW.

Las Vegas once again proved to be a perfect home for World Championship Wrestling, and while we can't confirm anything as of press time, reports say WCW will be there rather soon with another mega-show. Stay tuned ... we'll keep you updated.

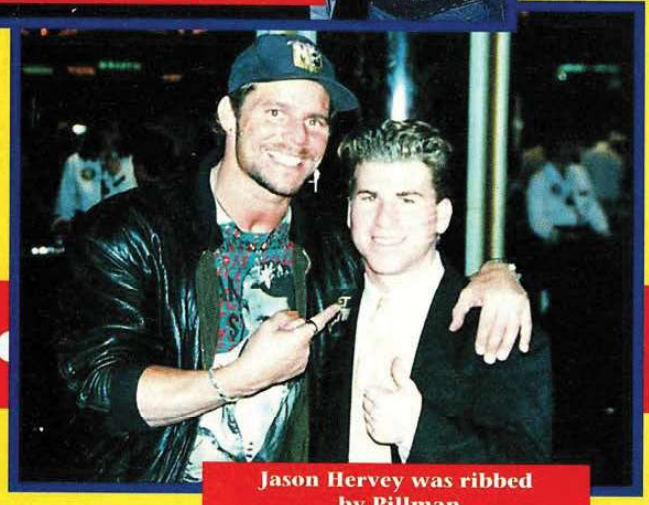


This autographed jacket was won by a lucky fan

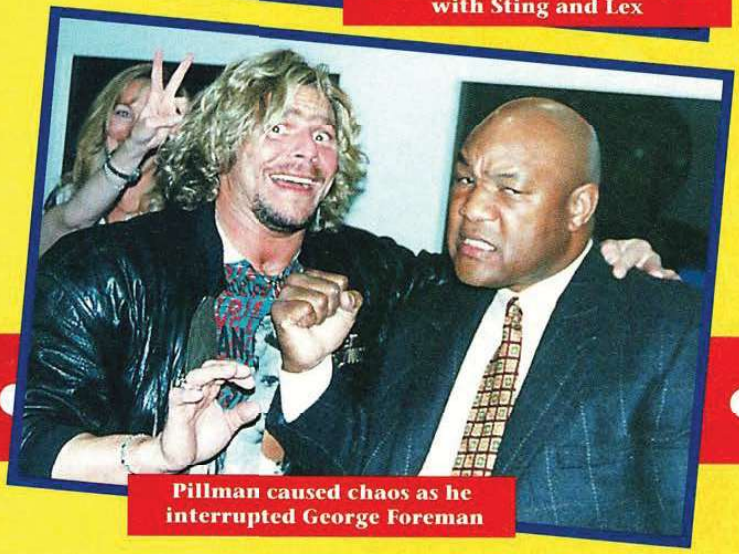
Sags harasses McMichael and Kelly Gruber



David Faustino is happy to pose with Sting and Lex



Jason Hervey was ribbed by Pillman



Pillman caused chaos as he interrupted George Foreman

LOOKING BACK

Magnum T.A.

Picture the top stars in wrestling all standing together in the middle of the ring. We mean the very biggest superstars in all of the mat world.

Who would you think of?

Of course, there's Hulk Hogan — that's a given. "Nature Boy" Ric Flair, without question. Put Sting into the picture, and there's Lex Luger standing beside him. "Macho Man" Randy Savage, he's a legend. He's standing among them, too. There's the Nasty Boys ... over to the side is Harlem Heat ... the Road Warriors and the list goes on.

There's another man whose face should be included in that gathering of legends, but fate has robbed us of watching this incredible athlete perform. Magnum T.A., had he remained healthy and intact, would be among the biggest superstars in WCW today if not for a tragic automobile accident that left him partially paralyzed almost a decade ago.

That's not what we want to discuss here, though. Just the other day, someone brought up Magnum's name, and we smiled. The man still, to this day, has that effect on everyone he comes in contact with.

"One of the best ever," said Dusty Rhodes in 1987.

"My comrade," his once-bitter foe, Nikita Koloff, said just following Magnum's car crash. Before the accident, Koloff and Magnum had engaged in one of the most bitter and bloody feuds of that era. During the course of the feud, Koloff learned to respect Magnum's incredible wrestling acumen and perseverance, so much so that T.A.'s accident instantly turned the Russian strongman into a fan favorite, as he too cared about Magnum's well-being.

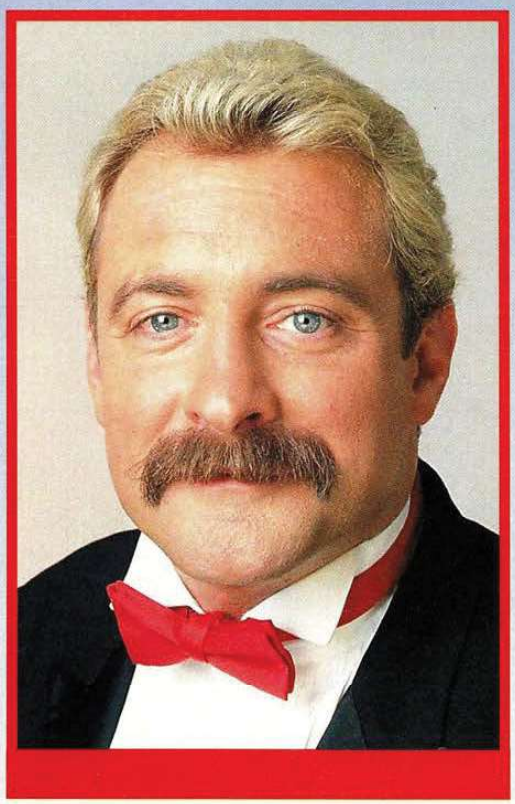
It was hard not to root for Magnum. It was in the mid-'80s that an average-sized wrestler with average skills named Terry Allen made his debut in the Mid-Southern area, often being bested by the more experienced wrestlers of the day, such as Tully Blanchard, Gino Hernandez, and The Sheepherders (later to be known as the Bushwhackers).

There was something about Allen, though, that made him different than the other young wrestlers. As the matches progressed, he increased in power and speed. When he grew a mustache, the fans started shouting "Magnum! Magnum!" based on a popular TV hero of the day, Tom Selleck. Both were dashingly handsome, so Magnum T.A. didn't mind adopting the name, as he'd do anything to please his fans.

Please the fans he did. Touring throughout the NWA territories, Magnum took on all comers without fear or favor, never straying far from the rulebook. His combination of good looks, power, and pure talent impressed everyone from fans in San Antonio to promoters such as the legendary Paul Boesch. In the space of just more than a year, Magnum, armed with a lethal belly-to-belly suplex went from mid-card status to that of true main event superstar.

What main events he took part in! Teaming with Rick Steamboat to take on the Garvin Brothers. Winning the U.S. title twice, the first time in March 1985 from Wahoo McDaniel and then in November 1985 when he regained it from the man who defeated him in July, Tully Blanchard.

The biggest series of his life might've been the matches with Koloff. It was the staunch patriot versus the Communist barbarian, but in the end there was no clear winner in the feud. Fate wouldn't allow it to happen. A few months after Koloff beat Magnum in a best-of-seven tournament to win the US title (Magnum had been stripped for attacking Bob Geigel) in August 1986, came the crash.



After the accident, the switchboards at the NWA offices were flooded with concerned callers. Had Magnum survived the horrible one-car accident? Thankfully, yes, but his career, in the ring at least, was over. The fans just wouldn't let him go. He made stunning unannounced appearances at several NWA cards when fans weren't even aware he had recovered. He even came to ringside to assist friends such as Rhodes and Koloff during their matches.

One memorable incident came on World Championship Wrestling, the program that preceded WCW Saturday Night on SuperStation TBS. Magnum was holding a baseball bat and whimsically saying he was going to use the bat against the Four Horsemen. A few moments later, he was brazenly and brutally attacked by Tully Blanchard. Enraged beyond reason, Dusty Rhodes, the US Champion ran to ringside and used the bat against Blanchard and Arn Anderson. However, when then-NWA President Jim Crockett ran out to stop the fracas, he also was blasted with the bat, earning Dusty a suspension. We don't blame Dusty for what he did. What kind of a craven coward belts a semi-crippled man with a cane?

Magnum continued to be a part of WCW working as an announcer and also behind the scenes passing on his knowledge to the younger up and coming stars before retiring. These days, Magnum keeps track of everything that goes on in WCW, and the rumor mill has it that he's been slowly but surely thinking of making a comeback in one fashion or another.

Would the fans welcome him back? We would like to think so. We can only think back to the sight of 15,000 teary-eyed fans when Magnum first made his way back to the ring, cane in hand, valiantly struggling to stand erect and proud.

There's no doubt that sooner or later Magnum T.A., one of the biggest stars ever, will return, if only to be honored and take his rightful place in the Hall of Fame. He might not be in the ring today, but in the hearts of WCW fans, he'll always be one of the big boys.

TALKING POINT

WITH TONY SCHIAVONE

When I think back to all of the color commentators I have worked with, it seems like a blur ... there have been so many.

My first was David Crockett who was, well, a different sort. He still is. David always said exactly what he was thinking. And I do mean, EXACTLY. We were a duo back in the mid-1980s and the world was not so touchy-feely, politically-correct as it is today. I'm sure David would have to be a lot different today than he was back then. Perhaps not.

Then there was Kevin Sullivan. Yeah, I know, he's a nut! But, Kevin Sullivan knows this sport.

Next, Dutch Mantel. Boy was he good. He was a very funny, entertaining guy. I never will forget the time he informed me that Ricky Morton (of the Rock and Roll Express) had a hit single that went "plywood" on the Billboard chart. I nearly died of laughter right on the air.

"The Living Legend" Larry Zbyszko followed and it was at that time that I learned about the sport from a wrestler's perspective.

Then Jesse "the Body" Ventura. I probably was closer to Jesse, as a friend, than any co-host. It hurt me to see him leave WCW; he was very good. His outspoken style had the producers at WCW give me a lot of grief to which I would reply, 'Tell him, not me ... he's the one who said it!'

That brings us to the present. I now work with two: Bobby "The Brain" Heenan and Dusty Rhodes. It's pretty tough. Tough because you are not going to find two men as different. Both are entertaining, both are opinionated. But that's about it for similarities. Dusty draws his emotions from the many years he spent as one of the most dominating wrestlers this sport has ever witnessed. Heenan draws his emotions from an underlying contempt for his fellow man and total paranoia.

However, believe it or not, I like working with both. I have been very close friends with Dusty since 1984. He brings a lot of knowledge and excitement to the broadcast and, let's face it, he's funny.

Heenan also brings a lot of knowledge and excitement to the broadcast. And, even though he doesn't attempt to be, he's funny as well. I sometimes see humor in his warped mind. Believe me, Heenan is the most warped man I have ever worked with.

Preparation is a challenge when broadcasting WCW. I feel I am as prepared as anyone. I frequently take notes and I always watch other matches on other programs to help fuel my craft. However, getting prepared with Heenan and/or Dusty is a challenge.

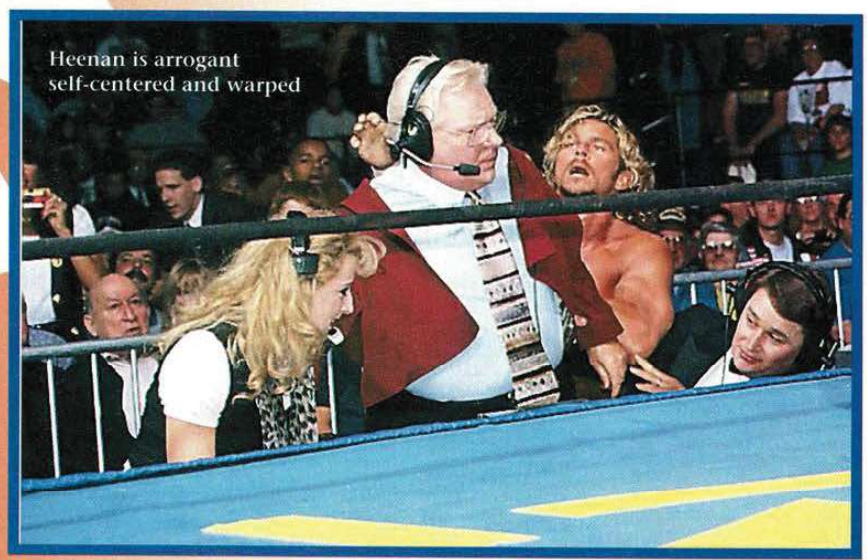
Heenan doesn't like to talk before a broadcast. In fact, Heenan doesn't have any time for me outside of the arena. He is arrogant and self-centered. He makes it known to everyone, particularly me, that he knows all about WCW and does not care to discuss the upcoming event or incidents leading up to them. That's fine, I suppose. Therefore, when you see me and Heenan do a telecast, realize that we are as raw and as cold as two men can be. "The Brain" forces that issue.

As for Dusty, well, it's much different. He likes to talk about what's ahead. Sometimes, he talks too much. Many times our pre-production meetings run long because we lapse into a story-telling mode. Discussions about the Four Horsemen, for example, will lead to a story about the time Ric Flair, Ole and Arn Anderson attacked Dusty in a cage at the Omni in Atlanta. The door was locked and it was brutal. The story sometimes takes up a lot of pre-production time and — all of a sudden — it's AIR TIME! What was that we had to talk about tonight? Was that Pillman or Ole or Flair or Dusty ... oh, just forget it. Let's just hit the air running.

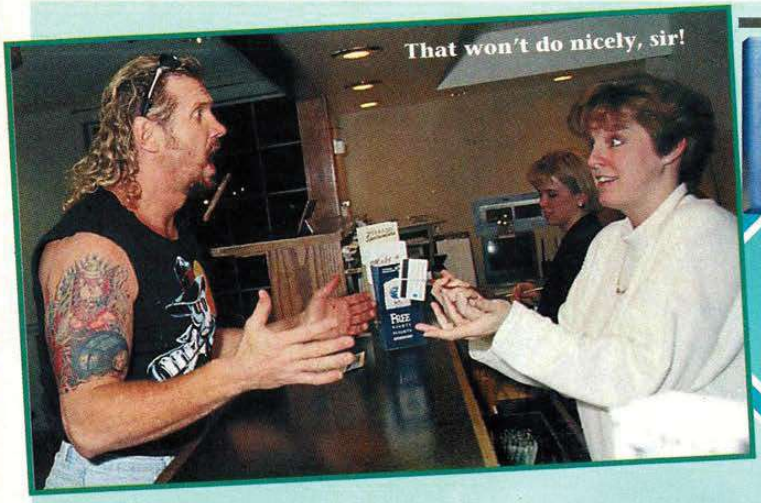
No doubt the biggest challenges to my broadcasting came at the end of 1995. That was when I did Starrcade '95 with Dusty and Heenan. Actually, I thought it was great because not only was it fun, but it also was entertaining. It certainly showed a glimpse of what my co-hosts are really like.

See, many times I am asked by the fans, 'What is Heenan like away from the camera?' and 'Is Dusty really that crazy?' To answer that, my reply is: Just watch a tape of Starrcade '95. You will see the real Dusty Rhodes and the real Bobby Heenan. Intelligent, funny, quick and, in many ways, ruthless.

Oh, by the way, you also will see the real Tony Schiavone at Starrcade '95. Loving every minute he spends with the two most talented color men I have ever seen in this sport.



Heenan is arrogant self-centered and warped


That won't do nicely, sir!

DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE DOWN & DESTITUTE & PENNILESS

Ever since Diamond Dallas Page's monthly column started, he has treated WCW Magazine — particularly its editorial staff — like a marine in basic training. He has been abusive, controlling and under the impression that nothing in the magazine matters beside his 800 words per issue. He has been oblivious to deadlines, not to mention numerous pre-arranged interview time-slots.

WCW Magazine has gone above and beyond the call of duty to satisfy his every wish, even traveling to remote areas of the world — at our expense — to please him. The reason? To build a strong, positive working relationship, one that, hopefully, will benefit both.

Then came the February to remember, at least for some of us. DDP again pulled his shenanigans of unavailability during the first 10 days of the month, despite our deadlines. So, we figured, let's just corner him at SuperBrawl VI — before the event, of course.

That, unfortunately, didn't happen.

Before the event started on pay-per-view, DDP was a frantic mess in the backstage area of the Bayfront Center. He was pacing, sweating, making phones calls and simply, as he shouted at us numerous times, "unavailable for comment."

This was a disaster for us. The rest of the magazine had been put together and was waiting on the presses. The prospect of having a blank page in the magazine was becoming a nightmarish reality.

Then came the match and boy, as the saying goes, did money change hands in that match. Johnny B. Badd not only won the match — but also DDP's $13 Million!

And we still needed an interview with DDP!

As DDP entered the locker-room area, his chin was so low it hit his chest, and the papparrazzi cameras went wild. Plus, the glare of the TV camera lights was nearly blinding.

"I have no comment," he shouted.

The cameras remained focused on DDP's locker room door, waiting for any movement. Five minutes passed, 15, 25, 45, an hour, yet no sign of DDP. It was time to give up, we thought, a futile effort.

To drown our sorrow — of failing to catch "the" interview of the night, not the fact DDP lost the money — we headed to a local establishment. We found an empty barstool and ordered a cold one.

On our right was a shaggy-haired gentleman, his head slumped over. 'Are you OK?' we asked.

"Does it look like I'm OK, Monkey Boy," DDP snapped.

Yep, DDP was sitting right next to us, having slipped out the side door of the arena, he later admitted.

Perfect, we thought, let's do the interview now. And what better way than to offer to buy DDP his drink — and give him a little spending money.

"If you're buying, I'm talking," DDP said, sitting up in his chair with a slight grin on his face. "Ya know, the owner of this barn-like joint, Tony Coffaro, is a former business partner of mine and a longtime personal friend. He wouldn't even think of charging me, but would be glad to take your money. So start asking away."

What are you going to do now that you've lost the Doll — and the money? we asked.

"Let me tell you something, geek, I'm going to be back on top; it's just a matter of time. I've just gotta ... I mean I have to ... I mean I will ... well, you know, I'll be back on top ... soon, yeah, soon, very soon."

"That path from the outhouse to the penthouse, well, I'm quite familiar with it."

Next question, how are you going to live on $0?

At this point, DDP's left arm shot out, knocking WCW Magazine executive editor Ross Forman off his stool to the floor.

"Listen here, punk, ask your questions in a more positive vain or I'm going to tear off your ears and stick them in your pocket so you can hear me kicking your @#$. Got it?" DDP said.

(At this point, I thought about suing him, but, hey, what would I have gotten? Nothing from nothing is nothing.) I then told him, if he even thinks about touching me again, this interview is off — and so is the money we are paying him.

"Hey, baby, sweetheart, that was just a love-tap. We're pals," he replied, a huge grin glowing on his cigar-chomping face.

DDP didn't answer too many of our questions over the next two hours; instead, he tried to convince bar owner Coffaro to re-open his lifelong tab.

"Sorry, bud, you can't have any more drinks without cash," Coffaro said.

DDP stood shortly before the bar was closing and again walked out a side door in hopes of evading the media. "This is where my limo is hidden," he said, smiling.

Yeah it was — but with a Denver boot on it! DDP was going nowhere! "That's OK, walking is good for you," he said, as he began his 5.6-mile journey to the hotel. His woes continued there.

The receptionist, a perky young girl named Sandra, said, "Mr. Page, as you know, our owner normally just sends you the bill at his convenience for your stay in the Presidential Suite. But, he just called and insists you pay with a credit card."

DDP then whipped out his wallet and, with anger in his eyes handed his American Express card.

"Sorry," Sandra said moments later, "this card has been terminated." And with those words she cut up his card as DDP's cigar fell out of his mouth in shock.

DDP's SuperBrawl loss was, as you can tell, the start of his southern slide. But, even though he was a lost soul that evening, we could tell that he was up to something devilish; he was plotting and, quite possibly, this could make him more dangerous than ever before.

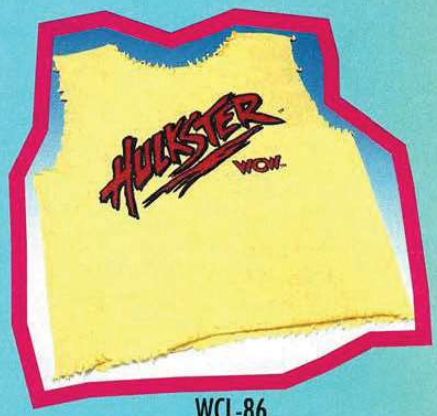
If he ever gets it back, God help us all!

OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE 1996

WCL-87
HULK HOGAN DOO-RAG
US Price $7[00]
UK Price £7.00

WCL-139
MACHO MAN T-SHIRT
US Price $20[00] UK Price £14.00

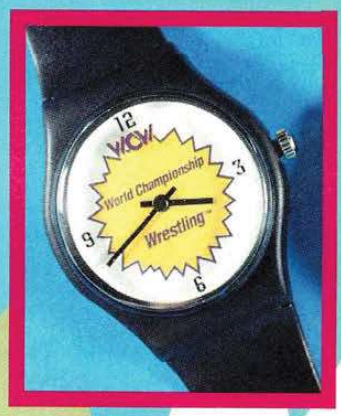
WCL-99
HULK HOGAN CHAMPIONSHIP T-SHIRT
US Price $20[00] UK Price £14.00



WCL-86
HULK HOGAN TEARAWAY SHIRT
US Price $18[00] UK Price £14.00

WCL-121
MACHO MAN SUNGLASSES
US Price $6[00] UK Price £4.50

WCL-124
HULK HOGAN EMBROIDERED HAT
US Price $20[00] UK Price £15.00



WCL-108
WCW COLLECTORS WATCH.
US Price $15[00] UK Price £12.00

WCL-127
STING EMBROIDERED HAT
US Price $20[00] UK Price £14.00

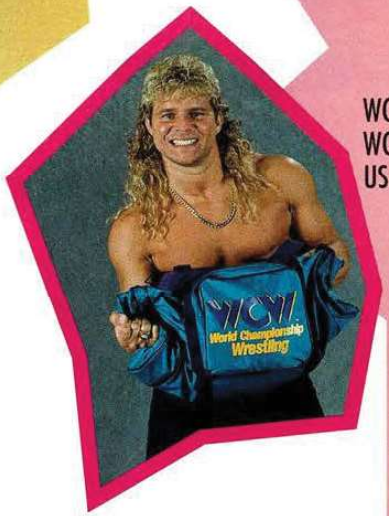
WCL-107
HOGAN WRISTBANDS
US Price $8[00] UK Price £8.50

WCL-122
MILK CAPS
Sold in containers of 5 plus a slam
US Price $5[00] UK Price £3.50

RINGTHEBELL on Archive.org

WCL-113 (MED) WCL-114 (L) WCL-115 (XL)
OFFICIAL WCW POLO SHIRT
US Price $40[00] UK Price £33.00

WCL-100
NASTY BOYS T-SHIRT
US Price $20[00] UK Price £14.00



WCL-09
WCW TOTE BAG
US Price $30[00] UK Price £27.00

WCL-138
NASTY BOYS SHADES
US Price $6[00] UK Price £4.50

WCL-120
VADER MASK
US Price $12[00]
UK Price £10.00

WCL-102
USA MASK
US Price $10[00]
UK Price £10.00

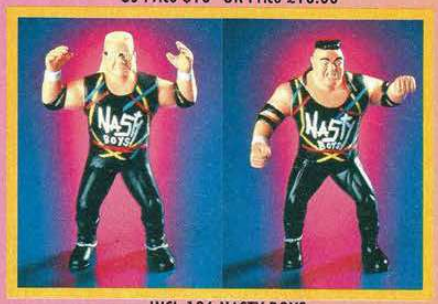
WCL-128
WCW TRADING CARDS
Sold in 8-card packs. Price per pack
US Price $3[00] UK Price £1.75

WCL-32
REPLICA WCW BELT
US Price $14[00] UK Price £12.00

WCW ACTION FIGURES

TAG TEAMS

WCL-137 HARLEM HEAT
US Price $16.00 UK Price £16.00



WCL-136 NASTY BOYS
US Price $16.00 UK Price £16.00

SINGLES

WCL-129 HULK HOGAN
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

WCL-130 STING
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

WCL-132 VADER
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

WCL-131 RIC FLAIR
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

WCL-134 JIMMY HART
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

WCL-133 JOHNNY B. BADD
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

WCL-135 KEVIN SULLIVAN
US Price $8.00 UK Price £8.00

1996 MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

❑ Check this box if you have moved and please supply us with your new mailing address:

Ship to:
Name
Address
City *State*
Zip Code *Country*

Personal checks and money orders gladly accepted. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Sorry no C.O.D.'s or P.O. boxes accepted

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
	(CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, MI, NC, OH, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI only) **State Sales Tax**			
	(See chart) **Shipping & Handling**			
	TOTAL			

SHIPPING & HANDLING

Add the appropriate amount to your order.

Continental US Orders
- Up to $50.00 add $5.75
- $50.01 to $100.00 add $7.75
- Over $100.00 add 8% to total amount

(Additional charges apply for Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico orders.)

International Orders
- Up to $100 add $25.00
- $101.00 to $200.00 add $30.00
- $201.00 to $300.00 add $35.00
- $301.00 to $400.00 add $40.00
- $401.00 to $500.00 add $50.00

For air freight orders, double these totals. V.A.T. taxes and duties are additional.

PAYMENT METHOD USA

Payment must accompany all orders. Sorry, no C.O.D.s
Check or money order only

Make checks payable to: ***World Championship Wrestling***

Send order form to:
WCW MERCHANDISE DEPT,
c/o MARCO CANALES, ONE CNN CENTER
BOX No. 105366, ATLANTA, GA30303
USA

POST & PACKING

Add the appropriate amount to your order.

UK
- Up to £20.00 add £2.50
- £21.00 to £50.00 add £5.00
- Over £51.00 add £7.50

INTERNATIONAL
- Up to £20.00 add £5.00
- £21.00 to £50.00 add £10.00
- Over £51.00 add £15.00

WCW is the official trademark of World Championship Wrestling Inc., © 1996

PAYMENT METHOD UK

Payment must accompany all orders. Sorry, no C.O.D.s
Personal cheques accepted. Allow 28 days for deliveries.
Please indicate payment method.

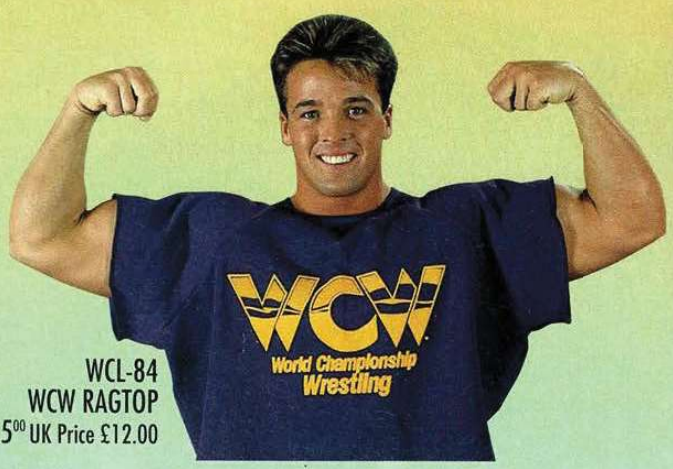
❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard ❑ Switch ❑ Cheque/postal order

Make cheques/postal orders payable to WCW UK MERCHANDISING

Credit Card Number *Expiry Date*
Name on Credit Card
Signature *Issue No.*

Send order form to:
WCW UK MERCHANDISE, PO BOX 278, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6GE

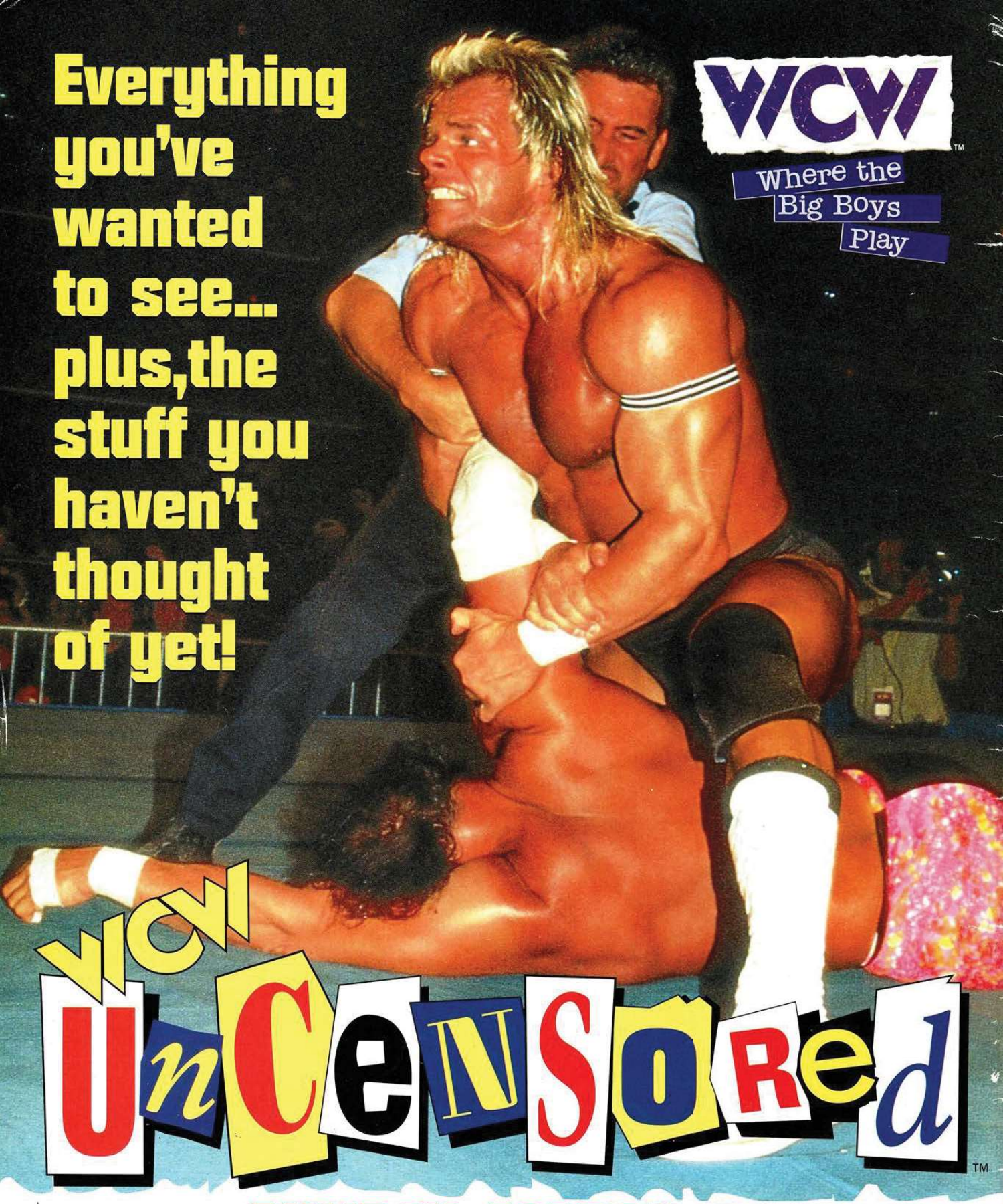
TO ORDER BY PHONE CALL 01622 688945 UK ONLY



WCL-84
WCW RAGTOP
US Price $15.00 UK Price £12.00

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

ZODIAC
WCW
World Championship
Wrestling™



SUNDAY, MARCH 24

7PM ET / 4PM PT

WCW Live only on Pay-Per-View

NOTE: CARD SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

CALL YOUR LOCAL CABLE OPERATOR FOR AVAILABILITY.
SATELLITE DISH OWNERS CALL TURNER PREMIERE TO ORDER 1-800-843-9266.

Turner Premiere
a pay-per-view service of TURNER HOME SATELLITE

HULKSTER
WCW
World Championship Wrestling™